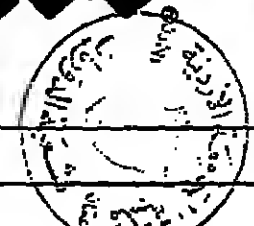


# Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

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## Tension in Gulf May Delay Impeachment Vote

# Pentagon in 'Execute Mode' for Attack on Iraq

## Netanyahu Sets Ultimatum on Peace Accord

### He Threatens Early Elections If Knesset Doesn't Back Him

TEL AVIV — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu set the stage Wednesday for early elections, saying he would call Israel to the polls if he loses a vote Monday on his suspension of a peace deal with the Palestinians.

A senior government official added that if Mr. Netanyahu called early elections, Israel would freeze its U.S.-brokered peace deal with the Palestinians.

"I don't think anyone expects us to continue with implementation of the agreement during an election period," the official said.

Saeb Erekat, the top Palestinian negotiator, described Mr. Netanyahu's move as likely to "have very dangerous effects on the peace process."

Addressing supporters at his Likud party headquarters in Tel Aviv, Mr. Netanyahu said he would ask the Labor opposition to back him in Parliament, or the Knesset, on his decision not to proceed with the peace deal unless the Palestinians halted alleged violations.

"I say now from the start, if there isn't the necessary majority to support these principles, I will call for early elections in order to get from the people the necessary mandate to achieve a real peace," he said.

Mr. Netanyahu said he was demanding of the Palestinians a halt to incitement to violence, a roundup of illegal weapons, a reduction in the size of the Palestinian police force, and an end to declared aspirations to statehood or a presence in Jerusalem.

"I intend to bring these decisions before members of the Knesset on Monday," Mr. Netanyahu said in a speech broadcast live.

Mr. Netanyahu said, "What emerged in Netanyahu's speech is a freeze of the peace process. He knows very well that the Palestinian side has fulfilled all its commitments."

Mr. Netanyahu's "rightist" coalition has splintered over the land-for-peace deal, the prime minister reached with his Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, at Wye River, Maryland, in October.

President Bill Clinton, who brokered the Wye agreement, was in the region for three days this week to try to salvage the accord. His apparent failure increased U.S.-Israeli tensions.

As he struggled to stay in power, Mr. Netanyahu told his cabinet Wednesday that he would not carry out a second handover of West Bank land on Friday under the Wye timetable.

Mr. Arafat called the move a "clear and dangerous violation" of the accord.

Washington pressed Mr. Netanyahu on Wednesday to adhere to the Wye deal but conceded that the handover would probably be delayed.

"We believe the Wye Memorandum should be implemented and that both parties should fulfill the obligations they undertook at Wye," the State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said.

Finance Minister Yacov Neeman submitted his resignation Wednesday, saying divisions in

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A UN humanitarian worker waiting with his luggage for a bus leaving Baghdad on Wednesday as many relief personnel headed out of Iraq to seek safety in Jordan.

## Court Frees Kurdish Leader

### Turkey Threatens Retaliation Over Italian Verdict

By Alessandra Stanley  
New York Times Service

ROME — An appeals court in Rome freed the Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan on Wednesday, a ruling that further enflamed a bitter diplomatic dispute between Italy and Turkey.

The court determined that Italy had no grounds for detaining Mr. Ocalan, leader of the Kurdish Workers Party. But the Italian prime minister, Massimo D'Alema, quickly said that Mr. Ocalan would nevertheless be kept under police surveillance.

After the court's verdict, Turkish officials, already furious with Italy for refusing to extradite Mr. Ocalan, immediately expressed outrage and renewed threats of economic retaliation against Italy.

"It will damage Turkish-Italian relations

and international law," the Turkish defense minister, Ismet Sezgin, told Turkish television reporters.

Italy has refused to extradite Mr. Ocalan, who is wanted in Turkey on terrorism charges, because of a law that bans the extradition of prisoners to countries where they might face the death penalty.

Mr. Ocalan was arrested by Italian police on Nov. 12 while trying to enter Rome from Moscow on a false passport. Shortly after his arrest, Mr. Ocalan requested political asylum in Italy.

Italy, which quickly found Mr. Ocalan's presence burdensome, has so far proved unable to persuade other European countries to take the Kurdish rebel leader off its hands.

Germany, which issued a warrant for Mr.

See ITALY, Page 4

## House Leaders Discuss How To Meet 2 Crises

By Brian Knowlton  
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — With a vote to impeach President Bill Clinton appearing all but certain, the Republican House leadership on Wednesday considered delaying the fateful vote if the president launches a military attack against Iraq.

"I think it would be awkward to have an impeachment vote during a bombing in Iraq," said the Judiciary Committee chairman, Representative Henry Hyde, Republican of Illinois.

The convergence of two crises — war and impeachment — have transformed the situation into one of the most extraordinary in the history of the White House. Members of the House have been summoned back from their home districts for a historic debate and probable vote on Thursday, and they met Wednesday in party caucuses. Their leaders prepared them for what appeared likely to be at least six hours of debate and a narrow vote to impeach Mr. Clinton.

But amid speculation about an air strike on Iraq, the incoming speaker of the House, Representative Bob Livingston of Louisiana, met

For House decision makers, time runs out. Page 2. • Senators doubt trial can be avoided. Page 3. • House Republican whip skillfully wields power. Page 4.

with the House minority leader, Representative Richard Gephardt of Missouri. The two agreed that in the event of an attack, the vote should be delayed, legislators in both parties told CNN and The Associated Press. But another source said only that they had discussed contingency plans in case of a military strike.

James Rubin, the State Department spokesman, insisted that the timing of a possible attack had nothing to do with the impeachment crisis. He said that "the timing here is generated by Iraq's failure to comply" with United Nations resolutions; any crisis, he said, was "based on the circumstances created by Iraq and no other circumstances."

Joe Lockhart, the president's spokesman, fended off reporters' questions about the timing of the crisis, saying, "I'm not going to get into the details of decision-making or speculate on any of the options."

The Judiciary Committee, under Mr. Hyde, last week approved four articles of impeachment against Mr. Clinton, accusing him of two counts of perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of power.

The climactic intersection of a grave foreign crisis with the weightiest of constitutional dramas left many questions unanswered.

The biggest was whether some members of the House, when they vote on impeachment, decide to punish the president for what they might see as a cynically fabricated foreign crisis or whether, as such crises often do, an attack generates temporary bipartisan support for the president. That may depend in part on how smoothly an attack goes, if there is one. "I don't think it's a cynical play," Mr. Hyde said.

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## New Defiance Of Inspectors For UN Cited

By Barbara Crossette  
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — U.S. military forces in the Gulf appeared to be on the brink of launching attacks against Iraq on Wednesday in response to Baghdad's latest defiance of United Nations weapons inspectors.

President Bill Clinton, just back from the Middle East, met with his national security advisers in the White House Situation Room. They were expected to confer throughout the day, an adviser said.

Top military officials put the finishing touches on attack plans that were put on hold a month ago. A senior Pentagon official was quoted as having said: "We're in an execute mode. We're ready to go."

U.S. military strength in the Gulf was unusually high as heavy aircraft carriers and B-52 bombers overlapped with forces rotating out of the region. Page 4.

But officials cautioned that it was up to Mr. Clinton to give the final go-ahead. As an American military strike loomed, all international arms inspectors were hurriedly evacuated from Iraq on Wednesday, but 142 relief workers remained behind at the UN headquarters in Baghdad because it was considered too risky to move them overland to Jordan at night, officials said in New York.

About 66 UN relief workers were able to leave the country, most for scheduled holiday breaks that a number of them moved up in the face of military action. The remaining foreigners working for the organization and its agencies were sent to UN headquarters at the former Canal Hotel on the edge of Baghdad to sleep in their offices.

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq summoned his inner circle Wednesday to confront what his office called "American and British aggression."

The UN Security Council was called into a special session at the request of Russia, Iraq's strongest supporter on the council.

In the council and in their capitals, the Russians and French criticized the renewed warnings of military action and recent actions by the chief arms inspector, Richard Butler. As the executive chairman of the UN Special Commission charged with disarming Iraq, Mr. Butler, an Australian, made public a report late Tuesday that was highly critical of Iraqi compliance with arms inspectors since their work resumed on Nov. 17 after a break of more than two weeks caused by an Iraqi ban.

Nizar Hamdoun, Iraq's representative at the UN, said during a break in the closed-door Security Council meeting that Iraq had been "fully cooperating" with inspectors and that Mr. Butler had plotted with the United States to make Baghdad look bad in his report.

"I think that the whole work of UNSCOM, especially during the last three weeks, was heavily influenced by the United States in order to reach this conclusion in Mr. Butler's report that Iraq was not cooperative," Mr. Hamdoun said.

Mr. Butler's report sparked immediate tough words from Washington and London.

Prime Minister Tony Blair told Parliament in

See IRAQ, Page 4

## Answering Asian Critics, Japan Unveils New Loans

By Michael Richardson  
International Herald Tribune

HANOI — Japan unveiled new concessional loans to Asia on Wednesday worth more than \$5 billion and started handing out portions of a previously announced \$30 billion assistance package.

The assistance is part of a high-profile effort to counter criticism among its neighbors that Japan is not doing enough to help the region recover from an economic and financial crisis.

In what was seen as an attempt to reassert an economic leadership role in Asia that is being challenged by China, Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi said Japan's "support measures" for the region since the crisis started in July 1997 were "the largest in the world, and it is implementing them steadily."

Japanese officials said that the financial support — mainly in the form of low-interest loans to help hard-hit countries in East Asia revive growth and

prevent another round of currency devaluations — amounted to almost \$50 billion.

The officials said that comparable aid from the United States amounted to about \$10 billion, while Chinese assistance was worth \$4.5 billion.

Still, China has been widely praised by its Asian neighbors for keeping its economy growing strongly and maintaining the value of its currency, Japan, which is mired in its worst recession since World War II, has been equally widely criticized for failing to engineer a recovery and thus help its neighbors to bounce back.

But China is causing unease in both

See ASIA, Page 7



Relatives and friends carrying the coffin containing the remains of Amos Sibanda, who died of AIDS, to the burial site in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

## AIDS Epidemic Changes Africa's Culture of Death

### Customs Fall Away in the Flood of Funerals

By Donald G. McNeil Jr.  
New York Times Service

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe — On Monday, Amos Sibanda died in Mpilo Hospital here, and his body was moved to its morgue.

The relatives gathered at his tiny house cannot say exactly what the 40-year-old man died of, but his death certificate can: "encephalopathy and AIDS." He is the fourth member of his family to die in 14 months.

Mr. Sibanda, who could not read or write, made do for his wife and five children by selling tomatoes, old clothes and fried fish on the streets and repairing radios. He even owned a couple of cows, but sold them in the last year to help pay for the funerals of his father and two brothers. Now his family, its meager funds exhausted, cannot raise the \$46 it needs to get his body out of the morgue and into the city cemetery.

Their worst fear, says Thamsanqa Magonya, the local ward councillor, is that he will lie there until the hospital is forced to cremate him. Mpilo's morgue is so crowded that it sometimes has 250 bodies stacked in space meant for 60. But cremation "is taboo in African culture," Mr. Magonya said. "People don't want to burn their relatives. They say, 'I don't want ashes—I must see the bones.'"

Across Africa, as the AIDS epidemic has gnawed through people like a congo worm, the number of the dying is so great that it is changing the culture of death itself.

There are 5,500 AIDS-related funerals

every day in Africa, according to the United Nations. On a continent where a death has always been a communal rather than a private matter, poverty and emotional exhaustion are taking their toll. The poorest go unshrouded, a shovelful of ashes into a common pit.

Thousands of graves are left with no markers greater than the favorite cup and spoon of the deceased, smashed in loving memory of them. And people in all walks of life shamefacedly confess that they no longer have the money or energy to mourn as they feel African tradition demands.

Some businessmen have made the best of this, and in cities like Bulawayo, the funeral business is a golden industry in a blasted landscape. Two years ago, the city, whose name in Ndebele means "the Place of Killing," had four funeral homes. Now there are 14 registered ones, all owned by one family, plus an unknown number of free-lancers with a truck or two. Totals for the free-lance homes used to wander the wards of Mpilo Hospital until the chief administrator, horrified by their ghoulishness, chased them out.

In Africa, funeral rites take on far more importance than they do in the West. The poorest domestic worker with no savings account or pension will have one investment: her burial society, a sort of neighborhood club that in return for monthly payments her whole life guarantees members of her family a dignified burial, with a coffin, flowers and a generous meal for the mourners.

See AIDS, Page 7

Newstand Prices	
Bahrain	1,000 BD Mails \$5 e
Cyprus	C £ 1.00 Nigeria 12500 Naira
Denmark	17 DKr Oman 1,290 QR
Finland	12.00 FM Qatar 10.00 QR
Germany	€ 0.85 Rep. Ireland £1.10
Greece	€ 0.85 Saudi Arabia 10 SR
Great Britain	UK £1.00 Spain 160 Ptas
India	₹ 5.00 S. Africa R16 incl VAT
Japan	¥ 1,250 J.D. U.A.E. 10.00 Dh
Korea	₩ 91.160 U.S. M. (Est.) \$1.20
Lebanon	700 L.L. Zimbabwe 200 ZW\$

The Dollar	
New York	Wednesday 9:30 PM previous close
DM	1.6725 1.661
Yen	116.45 116.565
FF	5.8065 5.882
Pound	1.571 1.585
Dollars per pound	
The Dow	
Wednesday 9:30 AM	percent change
25,23	3,798.07 -0.29%
S&P 500	
25,23	1,183.62 +0.07%
+0.53	1,183.62 +0.07%
+2.91	2,015.24 +0.14%
The IFT online www.ift.com	

## AGENDA

### Scientists Report a Cloned Human Cell

South Korean scientists said Wednesday that they had cloned a human cell from an infertile woman, creating an embryo that theoretically could have grown into a physical replica of the woman. The experiment was then

stopped, they said. The research has not been confirmed or reviewed by other scientists. If the experiment is confirmed, it would probably be the first publicly disclosed cloning experiment on a human being. Page 4.

### Lawyers See No Bias in Pinochet Ruling

Lawyers for Spain acknowledged that a Law Lord linked to Amnesty International who ruled against General Augusto Pinochet had liberal views, but said these did not sway him against the former Chilean dictator. Page 4.

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## On the Air, In the Surf, In Seclusion / Impeachment, Yea or Nay?

## For House Decision Makers, Time Runs Out

By Marc Fisher  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The congressman could not field any calls about impeachment right then. He was out — surfing, sailing, sitting for the answer.

All 10 times at Representative Brian Bilbray's district office in San Diego were lit up. Callers were yelling about morality, fairness, sex and political retribution. A producer from Fox Broadcasting was holding on Line 3 and a note just handed to the chief of staff, John Woodward, alerted him that the television lady "sounds upset."

No matter. There was a northwest swell, three to six feet. And with the great sea of democracy in a threatening roll, its undertow pulling at a president, at least one of the "undecideds" — the couple of dozen congressmen who will decide the fate of Bill Clinton in a vote that was scheduled Thursday, pending developments in the Gulf — was in search of the perfect wave, the one that will deliver a signal.

Something must come. Impeach or not, yea or nay. But before that, Mr. Woodward said, Mr. Bilbray would stay "in seclusion," spending time out at the beach, then back in his home. Phone unplugged, media shut out, the modern legislator deliberating.

Mr. Bilbray was also reading the Federalist Papers, and reviewing the transcripts and the videotapes, the official record of this sordid year.

Then, on Wednesday, Mr. Bilbray's decision came: He announced that he would vote for impeachment.

Meanwhile, Representative James Greenwood, Republican of Pennsylvania, sat in the capital, deep in the swamp of allegations. He was on the phone, on yet another radio talk show, laying it out.

"I have two lousy choices," he told a reporter in between calls. "I can vote against impeachment, which sends a message that the chief law enforcement officer of the United States of America can perjure himself and essentially face no constitutional sanctions for that, and that's a bad outcome. The other lousy choice is that I have to vote for impeachment, knowing that this country does not want to endure a trial in the Senate with Monica Lewinsky and Linda Tripp testifying in the well of the Senate. If what we've been through so far is nauseating, my notion of a trial in the Senate is the nation as a whole hanging over the well and heaving."

From a McDonald's on Interstate 80 in Pennsylvania to the Albuquerque Petroleum Club, from Capitol hideaways to a Chinese restaurant in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Washington Post reporters caught up with — or circled furtively — the three dozen House members who will decide whether to end the nation's year of scandal with



A "yes" vote: Brian Bilbray, a congressman from California.



Listening: Jim Greenwood, a Republican of Pennsylvania.



Out hitting golf balls: Jim Leach, a Republican of Iowa.



Mulling it over: Christopher Shays, a Connecticut Republican.

the second impeachment of a president in American history.

Earlier this week, more and more of the undecideds — known colloquially as Republican "moderates" — lined up against Mr. Clinton.

But if the president's fate seemed sealed, the individual dramas continued to play out across the country.

The congressmen clustered themselves — at home, in mountain getaways, in Washington apartments. Or they bathed in the public's sudden activism, sitting through mounds of correspondence from voters. Or they listened to the entreaties of the White House, the Republican leadership and their Democratic counterparts.

The e-mails tumbled in by the thousands, overloading even the most efficient Capitol Hill interns. The phones trilled incessantly. The Los Angeles Times editorial page listed the phone numbers of every area House member and warned them to "beware the wrath of the American people."

Some of the group of undecideds relished the attention and trumpeted

their indecision, displaying to the nation each twinge of anguish.

Representative Jay Dickey, Republican of Arkansas, who was interviewed in Pine Bluff, in his home state, likened the pressure to "12 hours of surgery without anesthesia."

The urge to find a place to mull was powerful. While her office is flooded with 1,000 phone calls and 2,500 e-mails each day, Representative Heather Wilson, Republican of New Mexico, has spent her week at home in "quiet reflection."

Elsewhere, an undecided congressman was saying "I have come to the decision..."

Yes, yes? ...that I should not go into this historic debate with my mind closed.

Sigh. "I think that I owe it to my constituency, which is deeply and evenly divided on this question, and I owe it to my colleagues, and I owe it to history, to be available to persuasion," said Mr. Greenwood, the Pennsylvania Re-

publican. "This is one where you sit in the House and you listen."

In the cases of those undecideds who had cut off all radio contact and vanished into a monkish period of contemplation, it fell to their staffers and political associates to hold the media horde at bay.

Staffers insisted their bosses' silence was no game, no ploy.

"I assure you, we're not playing this process for any ulterior motive," said Bill Tate, chief of staff to Representative Jim Leach of Iowa. "There's no dramatic mind here, and there's no pleasure in it."

But will he vote for or against? "The fact is, we have no clue at all," said Ken Sullivan, a political writer for the Cedar Rapids Gazette. "He's not hitting some golf balls right now, clearing his head."

KATHY Havens, a businesswoman and a mother of two, had never called on a politician before. But somehow, the Lewinsky matter has gripped Ms. Havens like no political topic before. So there she was in the office of Representative Christopher Shays in Stamford, Connecticut.

"What's been on your mind?" Mr. Shays asked. "You want to tell me how you feel."

"My problem is, I can't believe this president anymore, and I don't know how I can get around that," Ms. Havens replied. "I can't let it go. I've tried. Do you have confidence in him?"

"Do I believe the president is a man of his word?" Mr. Shays said. "No. Now everything is couched in some kind of double meaning."

The constituent told her representative that if he voted for impeachment, she can never vote for him again. Mr. Shays, who announced Tuesday that he was reconsidering his earlier decision to oppose impeachment, wrote on his notepad. It all goes into the mix, back and forth.

One minute, "You have a position you think is sound," Mr. Shays said. "Then you hear criticism that you think is legitimate." Back and forth, back and forth. The pressure keeps growing. "It may be too late."

Meanwhile, back in Arkansas, "Dickey Still Not Telling," read the headline in the Pine Bluff Commercial. Mr. Dickey had for the first time acknowledged that he had decided how he would vote. But he won't say which way.

"The thing with me is that I have never expected him to tell the truth," Mr. Dickey said of the president.

The problem with President Clinton is that he only gives us the direct story in direct proportion to how close we are to finding the truth. It's kind of like the tide moving in."

"My nerve endings are just frayed," he said.

## U.S. Says Bin Laden Has Ordered Attacks

By Steven Lee Myers  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Osama bin Laden, the Saudi dissident the United States has accused of bombing the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in August, has ordered a terrorist attack on American targets in the Gulf within the next few days or weeks, administration officials said.

U.S. intelligence agents learned of preparations for a strike after eavesdropping on conversations between Mr. bin Laden and members of the loose-knit terrorist organization that he operates around the Islamic world, the officials said. Mr. bin Laden remains in hiding in Afghanistan.

As of Tuesday, the Pentagon would not publicly confirm the reports of Mr. bin Laden's plans, but it did announce that American military forces in the region had been placed on the highest state of alert possible short of an actual attack. The Pentagon's alert followed the State Department's warning Monday to U.S. diplomats and civilians in seven Gulf states of the "strong possibility" of an attack within the next 30 days.

"We believe that we have significant credible intelligence suggesting the possibility of an imminent terrorist action in the Middle Eastern region," the Pentagon's spokesman, Kenneth Bacon, said at a news conference. "And for that reason, American citizens have been warned, and American soldiers have been put on a higher state of threat condition."

The Clinton administration fired several dozen cruise missiles into Afghanistan on Aug. 20, two weeks after the embassy bombings, in an attempt to destroy Mr. bin Laden's organization and, officials concede, to kill Mr. bin Laden and as many of his lieutenants as possible. The reports of Mr. bin Laden's latest plan suggest the U.S. strike did little to dissuade him from further attacks.

The officials offered few details about the nature or targets of the planned attack, citing the sensitivity of intelligence-gathering methods. One official said the intelligence did not make clear where exactly the attack would occur or how many attacks were planned, though they said the intercepts made it clear Mr. bin Laden was orchestrating retaliation against Americans.

The United States has linked Mr. bin Laden's network to a number of terrorist attacks in addition to the simultaneous embassy bombings in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, that killed 224 people and wounded 3,000. Mr. bin Laden is also suspected of involvement in two attacks on U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia in 1995 and 1996 that left 24 American servicemen dead.

The State Department's warning applied to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Yemen.

The United States has 24,000 troops in the region, in all of those countries except Yemen, and aboard naval ships

plying the Gulf as part of the long-term monitoring of Iraq. The largest contingents of American troops are in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

About 5,000 American military personnel are in Saudi Arabia, most of whom were moved to the remote, heavily fortified Prince Sultan Air Base outside the capital, Riyadh, following the bombing of Khobar Towers in 1996. Nineteen airmen died in that attack.

Troops in the region already maintain a relatively high state of alert. The Pentagon classifies the "threat condition" at any given base on a daily basis, starting with normal and increasing in gravity to Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta. It has now been raised to Charlie at virtually all the bases in the region.

Since the cruise-missile strikes against Afghanistan, as well as one in Sudan, in August, the Pentagon itself and more bases in the United States have raised their "threat condition" to Alpha.

Condition Charlie means that commanders believe some form of terrorist attack is imminent. Delta means it has already started. The Pentagon has increased its alerts in the region before, but rarely have the threats been so explicit.

Mr. Bacon said that security measures at bases were left to the discretion of the base commanders, but the alert generally confines troops to their bases and intensifies checkpoints and patrols. The navy has also canceled port calls by its sailors aboard its fleet of 13 warships in the Gulf. In Bahrain's capital, Manama, where the Fifth Fleet has its headquarters, sailors have been placed under curfew.

Mr. bin Laden has remained in Afghanistan with the blessing of the Taliban fundamentalists who rule most of that country.

## TRAVEL UPDATE

## Athens Airport Strike

ATHENS (AP) — A planned strike by airport workers threatens to seriously disrupt pre-Christmas travel for thousands of people.

Employees have scheduled daily work stoppages between 6 A.M. and 10 A.M. and again between 2 P.M. and 6 P.M. from Monday through Wednesday, the union for civil aviation workers said.

The strikes could cause dozens of flight cancellations and delays as passengers gear up to travel for Christmas and the New Year.

Japan Airlines said Wednesday it had filed with the Transport Ministry for permission to start three-weekly service between Tokyo and Dallas/Fort Worth starting March 15. (Reuters)

Travelers at 10 of France's busiest airports, including the two outside Paris, face an aircraft refuelers' strike Friday that will see the cancellation of many short-haul flights and major delays on long-haul services. (AFP)

## Safety in Asian Skies Is Under Scrutiny

## Accident Rate Is Growing, Records Show, but in Line With Global Average

Reuters

SINGAPORE — Air crashes have claimed four times as many lives in Asia as in the rest of the world in the past 18 months.

Nearly 1,000 people have died in major airline accidents in Asia since August last year, in one of the region's worst periods in aviation. The crash of a Thai Airways Airbus last week in southern Thailand was the latest, killing 101 people.

But it is still too soon to declare Asian skies unsafe, analysts say.

"Even if the accident rate over time is lower in one region than another," said Paul Hayes, director of Airclaims Ltd., "it doesn't necessarily mean you're any more or less safe on your next flight."

Airclaims is an insurance assessor and investigator.

"It is notoriously difficult, even misleading," Mr. Hayes said, "to try to draw meaningful conclusions from snapshot incidents in aviation."

But Asia's air safety record faces fresh scrutiny after the crash last week of Thai Airways jet was making its third landing attempt in rain when it crashed into swampland.

The crash killed 101 of the 146 people on board and brought to 974 the total killed in major airline disasters in Asia since August 1997. Jets from Korea, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines and Taiwan have all crashed in the past 18 months.

The world's only other major air disaster in this period happened in September this year, when 229 people died in a crash off Nova Scotia, Canada, of a Swissair MD-11 en route from New York to Geneva.

Despite the crop of catastrophes, analysts say, Asia's track record compares well with that of the rest of the world.

Statistics peg the region's average aviation fatality rate at one passenger death for every 2.8 billion revenue passenger kilometers (RPKs) flown. The global industry average is one death every 2.6 billion RPKs.

But some say the underlying performance is masked by a handful of big airlines with excellent safety records regularly flying intercontinental routes.

"If you took Singapore Airlines, Qantas and Air New Zealand out, the figures for passenger fatalities would be appalling," a New Zealand-based aviation insurance adviser said.

Statistics revealed this year show that Asia's average number of passenger deaths grew to 250 in 1997 compared with 100 in 1990 — faster than the comparative rate of traffic growth.

Some analysts say the use of modern, wide-bodied aircraft skews the numbers of accidents and fatalities.

"The capacity on flights in Asia has gone up," a Singapore-based aviation accident assessor said. "You now have wide-bodied aircraft flying where a few years ago it would have been a twin-engine turboprop. You're bound to see a rise in fatalities."

Traffic volume in the region was growing at between 8 and 9 percent on average before Asia's economic crisis struck in July 1997. Asian airlines have been hit by the economic downturn, but still keep pace with European and North American traffic growth of about 4 percent.

Rapid traffic growth has led to concerns that Asia's aviation infrastructure

is unable to cope with the pressure placed on it.

Investigations at the Thai Airways crash site revealed that a key piece of equipment enabling planes to land safely in bad weather had been removed so the airport runway could be extended.

India's air traffic control system is 30 years old and does not measure aircraft altitude, nor does the country have complete radar coverage.

In November 1996, 349 people died when a Saudi 747 and a Kazakhstan cargo plane collided in midair over India, the worst such collision ever.

Indian airport authorities say they deal with 12 to 16 near collisions in their airspace every year.

The concurrent timing of Asia's economic crisis and the run of recent air disasters have prompted suggestions that the two are linked, with pressures to cut costs hurting maintenance.

"There's always a danger of moral hazard for cost-cutting in tough times," said an Australian insurance manager, who asked not to be identified.

But the Singapore-based assessor was skeptical. "I don't see any maintenance input in the crashes we've seen," he said. "There have been more operational factors — pilot, navigation, air traffic, weather."

Mr. Hayes of Airclaims said it was too early to say if Asia's recent tragedies were anything more than simple bad luck.

"It is too soon to say validly what's happening," he said. "Carriers in the region have suffered a number of accidents recently, but whether that's coincidence or not it is really too soon to tell."

## WEATHER

Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Europe

Today		Tomorrow		
High	Low	High	Low	
Algeria	20/21	19/23	8/9	19/24
Amman	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Ankara	12/14	9/14	8/9	19/24
Athens	19/20	14/15	8/9	19/24
Baku	19/21	14/15	8/9	19/24
Berlin	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Bombay	24/25	20/21	14/15	8/9
Buenos Aires	19/20	14/15	8/9	19/24
Bucharest	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Buenos Aires	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Calcutta	24/25	20/21	14/15	8/9
Cardiff	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cairo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cape Town	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cebu	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Dublin	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Edinburgh	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Geneva	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Helsinki	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Mumbai	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Paris	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Prague	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Rangoon	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Rome	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Sao Paulo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Seoul	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Shanghai	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Singapore	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Sofia	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Taipei	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Tel Aviv	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Tokyo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Vienna	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Warsaw	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Zagreb	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24


Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by AccuWeather.


Unseasonably Cold


Unseasonably Warm


Heavy Rain

Heavy Snow

Unseasonably Cold

Unseasonably Warm

Heavy Rain

Heavy Snow

North America

Cold in London and Paris over the weekend with a few showers on Saturday; then clearing. Dry and warm in Mexico and Rome, but it may be cooler by Monday. Milder from Warsaw to Moscow Friday, but cooler by Sunday. More wet weather is in store for Athens and Cyprus.

Europe

Cold in London and Paris over the weekend with a few showers on Saturday; then clearing. Dry and warm in Mexico and Rome, but it may be cooler by Monday. Milder from Warsaw to Moscow Friday, but cooler by Sunday. More wet weather is in store for Athens and Cyprus.

Asia

Relax seasonal temperatures with little or no rain. A slight dip can be expected from Tokyo through Seoul to Beijing. A few showers are possible across the Philippines, Taiwan and Hong Kong, but most of the time it will be dry. Singapore will be stormy with a few thunderstorms.

Mapa, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. 01/08/08 - <http://www.accuweather.com>

Middle East

Today		Tomorrow		
High	Low	High	Low	
Abuja	19/20	14/15	8/9	19/24
Algiers	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Amman	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Ankara	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Athens	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Baku	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Berlin	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Bombay	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Buenos Aires	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Bucharest	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Buenos Aires	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Calcutta	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cardiff	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cairo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cape Town	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cebu	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Dublin	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Edinburgh	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Geneva	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Helsinki	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Istanbul	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Jakarta	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
London	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Los Angeles	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Manila	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Moscow	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Mumbai	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Nairobi	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Paris	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Prague	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Rangoon	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Rome	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Sao Paulo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Seoul	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Sofia	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Taipei	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Tel Aviv	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Tokyo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Vienna	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Warsaw	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Zagreb	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24

Africa

Today		Tomorrow		
High	Low	High	Low	
Abuja	19/20	14/15	8/9	19/24
Algiers	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Amman	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Ankara	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Athens	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Baku	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Rome	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Tel Aviv	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Tokyo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Vienna	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Warsaw	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Zagreb	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24

Latin America

Today		Tomorrow		
High	Low	High	Low	
Abuja	19/20	14/15	8/9	19/24
Algiers	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Amman	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Ankara	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Athens	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Calcutta	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Cardiff	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Vienna	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Warsaw	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Zagreb	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24

Oceania

Today		Tomorrow		
High	Low	High	Low	
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Algiers	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
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Taipei	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Tel Aviv	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Tokyo	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Vienna	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Warsaw	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24
Zagreb	12/13	9/14	8/9	19/24

Legend:   
 - mainly sunny,   
 - partly cloudy,   
 - cloudy,   
 - showers,   
 - thunderstorms,   
 - rain,   
 - snow,   
 - fog,   
 - W-Winter.



THE AMERICAS

POLITICAL NOTES

# Senators Doubt Clinton's Trial Can Be Avoided

By Richard L. Berke  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Even as the White House scrambles for a deal to rescue President Bill Clinton, Republican and Democratic senators say it is highly unlikely that the president can avoid a divisive and possibly protracted trial in the Senate if the House votes to impeach him.

Some Senate Democrats embraced a proposal put forward by Bob Dole, the former Senate Republican leader, for the Senate to halt the process by passing a tough censure measure that the president would have to sign.

White House officials also said they hoped that Mr. Dole's entreaty would provide cover for Republicans who do not want to go ahead with a trial.

But as House Republicans hurried toward impeachment, even Democrats conceded that it was probably too late for senators to try to broker a deal.

Beyond the pace of events, they said that a sense of duty would ultimately prevail on senators to act as jurors and weigh the evidence presented by the House.

"The situation is deteriorating rapidly, it is now very likely a trial is going to be held in the United States Senate for the removal of Bill Clinton," said Senator Robert Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey.

Mr. Torricelli nevertheless welcomed the Dole proposal. "We do no service to the country to operate in denial," he said.

Senator Arlen Specter, Republican of Pennsylvania, who thinks there

should be a trial, said: "If the House returns articles of impeachment, we're past the point of no return." The Dole proposal, he said, "is a sophisticated form of censure and would not be acceptable."

Senator Joseph Lieberman, Democrat of Connecticut, who favors censure, said he believed a "trial will start" if the House votes to impeach the president. The Senate, he said, has a "constitutional obligation" to examine the evidence.

For weeks many senators had declined to publicly discuss the impeachment inquiry, saying they did not seriously believe it would reach the Senate.

But in interviews Tuesday, several in both parties said that they were stunned by the turn of events in the House and that they were now preparing for a trial.

Some senators noted, however, that the White House scandal had been marked by surprising turns, and cautioned that it was not inconceivable that the dynamic could somehow change after the House acts — or if Mr. Clinton makes a dramatic appeal to the Congress.

Even so, several senators said they had begun reading up on the history of impeachment.

"Before it was kind of theater, it was surreal," said Senator Charles Hagel, Republican of Nebraska, who has not stated his position on whether he would vote to convict the president.

"Now we're what stands between the president going to the gallows and being set free. And that's a pretty serious responsibility."

Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, said that until a few days ago he did not think a Senate trial would take place. But now, Mr. McCain said he believes there will be a trial, "because you can't ignore constitutionally what the House has done."

The senator said he did not know how he would vote.

Yet senators did not rule out the possibility that the Senate would settle on a compromise short of conviction after a trial was under way. Under Senate rules, a trial could be abandoned at any point by a majority vote. That could happen if members decided to censure Mr. Clinton or rebuke him in some other fashion.

Even as they anticipate a trial, Democratic and Republican senators said it still appeared unlikely that there was the two-thirds majority necessary under the constitution to remove a president from office. Still, many senators have refused to say how they might vote, citing their roles as jurors in a trial.

"The conventional wisdom is probably right: that there are not two-thirds," Mr. Specter said. "But it's conceivable that in a trial attitudes could be changed."

It is not likely reassuring to White House officials that many Democrats, rather than speaking up for the president, are standing by silently, refraining from saying they would oppose any drive to remove him from office.

"As far as I know," Mr. Lieberman said, "hardly any of my colleagues in the Senate have said how they would vote."

## Friedan and Livingston Fail (Surprise!) to Bond

WASHINGTON — In a day marked by a frenzy of electronic and in-person lobbying, 20 feminist leaders held a news conference in support of President Bill Clinton and then marched unannounced on the office of the incoming House speaker, Bob Livingston. They were granted a 20-minute session with the Louisiana Republican. It ended swiftly and sourly.

"He was extremely insulting to the modern American women's movement," said Betty Friedan, the feminist who earlier dismissed the entire constitutional crisis as the work of a "bunch of dirty old white men trying to use sexual issues wrongly."

The women complained that Mr. Livingston had insulted their feminist credentials on Tuesday, questioning how they could defend Mr. Clinton's conduct with a young woman intern, Monica Lewinsky.

The interaction between Mr. Livingston and the women was probably one of the least successful examples Tuesday of grassroots lobbying in Washington, no matter how colorful it proved to be.

"I did not insult one of them," Mr. Livingston said. "I resent that. They marched over without an appointment, and I said I thought my mother was as much a feminist as anyone in the crowd." (NTT)

in Washington Post and ABC News polls is 62 percent, up from 58 percent in 1997, 55 percent in 1996 and even lower in the first three years of his presidency.

His strong ratings have occurred during a year in which his admitted improper relationship with a former staff intern has led to the possibility of his impeachment. Aside from defying scandal gravity, the pattern of Mr. Clinton's ratings also is bucking the historical trend.

The pattern for modern presidential approval ratings is "honeymoon, disillusionment and forgiveness," writes a University of Arizona presidential scholar, Lyn Ragsdale. A president comes into office with high ratings, but the public eventually becomes disenchanted and support dwindles, only to rally a bit at the end of his term.

Mr. Clinton essentially missed out on his honeymoon, Ms. Ragsdale noted. Remember gays in the military?

"Unlike other presidents who played their symbolic cards better in the first six months in office, Clinton did not," she said.

This year's high approval numbers, Ms. Ragsdale added, suggest that "people are actually judging on his job performance, not on his personal problems, and this is a very well-entrenched, consistent judgment which most people made for the first time in 1992." (WP)

## Quote/Unquote

Robert Torricelli, Democratic senator from New Jersey: "The situation is deteriorating rapidly. It is now very likely a trial is going to be held in the United States Senate for the removal of Bill Clinton. We do no service in the country to operate in denial." (NTT)

## Has Clinton Peaked?

WASHINGTON — Barring a last-minute downturn, 1998 will be the high water mark for public support of the job that President Clinton is doing. This year, his average job approval rating

# As Market Rebounds, Business Lobbies Stay Out of Impeachment Issue

By David E. Sanger  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Over the years Bill Clinton had no better friend in the business world than the Wall Street partnership of Goldman, Sachs & Co. In 1992 and 1996, the firm was among his largest donors and fund-raisers. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin once ran the place, and as world markets melted over the last 18 months, the phone lines between Goldman and Washington were constantly abuzz.

But over the last week, as an impeachment of the president has moved from a distant possibility to a strong likelihood, Goldman's top executives say they have started no phone campaigns and twisted no arms. Indeed, many of Mr. Clinton's allies in the business world — from Silicon Valley to Wall Street — say they are sitting this one out even though they think a prolonged

Senate trial could trigger a market shock.

"I think this will have more impact in financial markets than people commonly believe, particularly if it drags on," Jon Cozzine, Goldman's co-chairman, said this week as more Republican moderates declared they would vote for impeachment.

"Apart from the merits of the question, it's an unattractive debate for the markets because they don't like uncertainty, and an inability to respond to tough situations," he added.

Yet, Mr. Cozzine says he has made no telephone calls to members of Congress on the issue. He said he and other executives were concerned that any organized lobbying effort might backfire, hurting Mr. Clinton.

There have been some organized lobbying efforts. Representative Brian Bilbray, Republican of California, has received a flood of calls from Silicon Valley executives who say they are

not defending Mr. Clinton, but fear that a prolonged fight could damage the economy, members of Mr. Bilbray's staff said.

Mr. Clinton's aides raise the same specter, noting that these days, the United States is the keystone to the world economy — and any suggestion that its executive branch will spend more time fighting for survival could send a chill around the world. It is an argument that, right or wrong, would have resounded far more widely in September and October, when the world economy seemed at the precipice of disaster.

After all, the market meltdowns that raced around the world this fall began on Aug. 17, the day that Mr. Clinton testified in front of the grand jury. But that was also the day that Russia announced a default on its debt, and in the end Russia's troubles, rather than Mr. Clinton's, were blamed for the flight from emerging markets around the world.

But at least for now, the situation looks less perilous. The U.S. markets have recovered, even if much of the rest of the world has not.

And in the absence of economic pain here, the gathering storm of impeachment has created more confusion than fear in the business and financial worlds.

"I haven't heard anything but questions from my members," said Tom Donahue, president and chief executive of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "No one is yelling 'Stop this thing!' Business executives don't know if they are on this side or that."

Mr. Donahue ootes, though, that he has heard "nothing from the White House," which turns to him regularly during legislative battles.

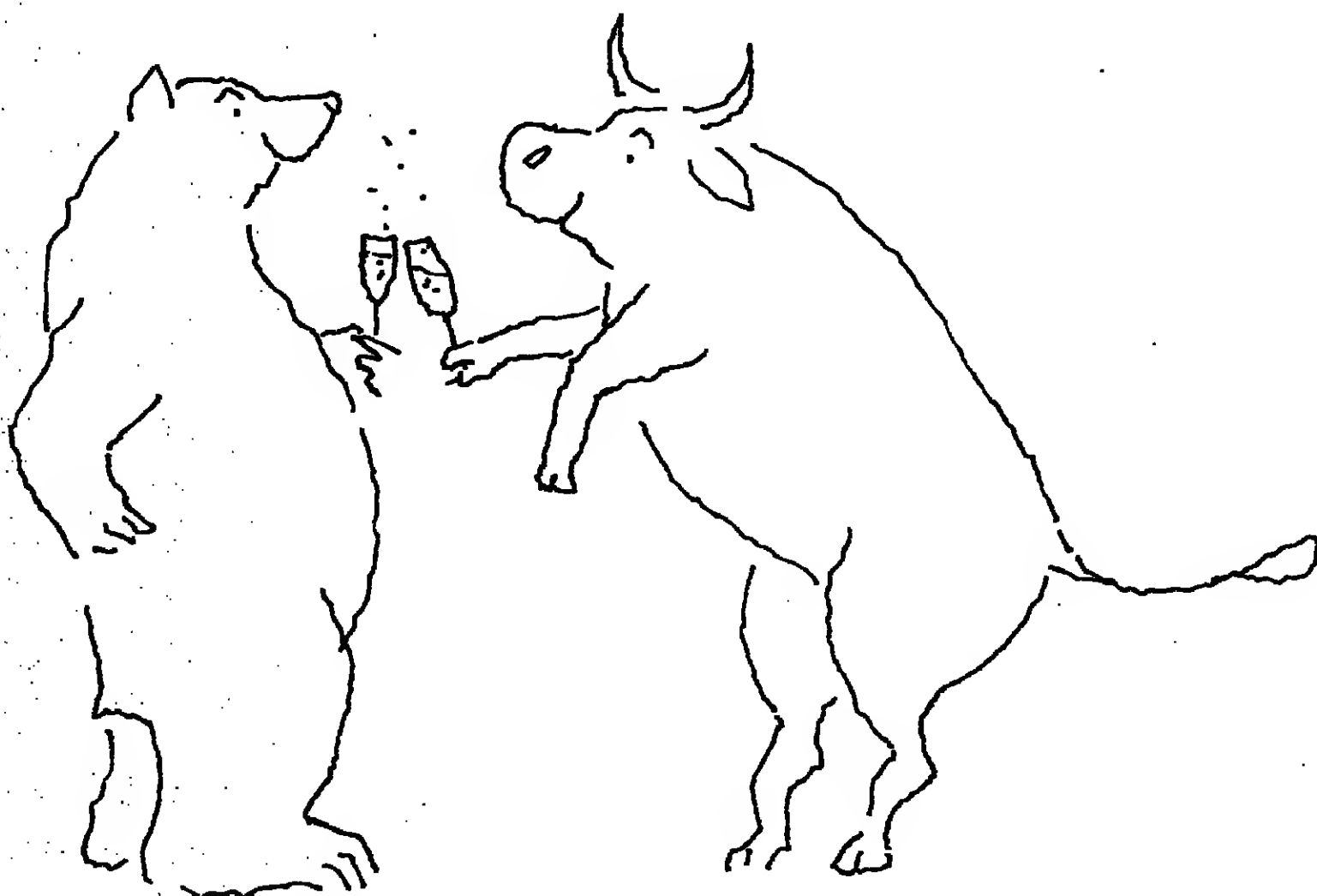
Other executives say the same, and Mr. Clinton's aides say they have deliberately avoided anything that would resemble a lobbying effort. "It's just silly to think that many of these guys

are going to come to our defense," one cabinet member said. "Do you think that the American business community is going to take on the Republican leadership, even if they think this whole thing is out? CEOs are not about to stick their necks out, not on this one."

In part that reflects the natural divide between business executives and politicians, who, especially in good times, have very different priorities.

"To the extent I can tell, this hasn't been on people's radar screens," said Jeffrey Garten, the dean of the Yale School of Management and a former top official in the Commerce Department. "When you talk to CEOs now, what they are worried about is deflation, and the prospect that they are heading into an era of brutal competition and massive restructuring. The fact that Bill Clinton will be diminished in the next 18 months is not their greatest concern."

WATCH OUT DAX, HERE WE COME!  
FIND OUT MORE ON DECEMBER 18, 1998.





## INTERNATIONAL

## South Koreans Say They Cloned, Then Killed, Human Cell

By Sheryl WuDunn  
New York Times Service

SEOUL — South Korean scientists said Wednesday that they had cloned a human cell from an infertile woman, creating an embryo that they said could have grown into a physical replica of the woman. But they said that because of the legal and ethical implications of their work, they stopped the experiment and did not try to breed a human clone.

The research has not been confirmed or reviewed by other scientists, although some said Wednesday that it was plausible and that they believed it

probably had happened. If the experiment is confirmed and its results published in a scientific journal, it would probably be the first publicly disclosed cloning experiment on a human being.

In the experiment, conducted by a three-man research team at the Kyunghee University Hospital, a major hospital in Seoul, scientists at an infertility clinic cultivated a human embryo by using an unfertilized egg and an ordinary, or somatic, cell donated by a woman in her 30s. They used a technique similar to the one used in July by a scientist who cloned mice in Hawaii.

The Korean government restricts the cloning of humans, though it does not ban it outright. There is

a significant amount of cloning experimentation in South Korea, and some experts say that cloning in South Korea is about as advanced as that in Japan, where scientists recently cloned eight calves from a single adult cow.

Yukio Tsunoda, a scientist at Kinki University who led the cloning of the eight calves, said that he had little information on the research work by the Korean team. But he said that since cloning of animals could be done, he did not see why cloning humans could not. Moreover, he said it was possible that human cloning to the same stage reached by the Korean team may have been done secretly in other countries. Rather than admiration, however, the

work in Korea inspired outrage and was denounced by lawmakers and civic groups in Seoul.

"We oppose the cloning of human cells," said Jung Myoung Hee, director of Green Korea United, a group concerned with ethics in biology and environmental pollution. "This is not an advancement for medical technology and now we have to be prepared to accept international criticism. The result of this experiment is not something Koreans should be proud of."

Mr. Jung added, "The only reason other countries have not developed this technology is because they feared the ethical repercussions, not because they lacked the technology."



UN arms inspectors leaving their headquarters in Baghdad on Wednesday during their hurried evacuation.

## 'Hammer' of the House

Republican Whip, Arch Enemy of Clinton, Skillfully Wields Newly Expanded Power

By Eric Pianin  
and Kevin Merida  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Tom DeLay, the House majority whip, took time out from his relentless campaign to impeach President Bill Clinton to field a call from an angry Massachusetts voter.

"This is Tom DeLay himself," he told the caller, who had demanded that Congress call a halt to impeachment and get back to more important business. He and his colleagues, Mr. DeLay said, were doing "what we're supposed to do."

But we will impeach this president," the Texas Republican said.

The third-ranking Republican House leader has been dubbed "The Hammer" for his skills at squeezing out votes, and Democrats assert that he is up to his old tricks in applying pressure to wayward Republicans to get behind impeachment.

But Mr. DeLay, in fact, is perhaps on the verge of his greatest success thanks to less overtly heavy-handed tactics, according to other members and aides.

By offering tough public pronouncements denouncing the president even as other party members urged retreat, the onetime pet extender from Houston helped revive the once-faltering impeachment drive. And Mr. DeLay engaged in shrewd tactical maneuvering to thwart the Democrats' proposal for a censure alternative that threatened to drain votes away from the impeachment forces.

"He played the critical leadership role," said John Feehery, a Republican strategist and former DeLay aide. "He's the one who spoke out first and most eloquently."

"He had the clearest vision of what needed to be done," Mr. Feehery added.

Though he is acting like a winner, Mr. DeLay is cautious about not sounding

like one in advance of the House vote.

"I'd say that the president is in real trouble," Mr. DeLay said in an interview Tuesday. "Things are rather bad right now, solemn. This is a very serious thing that the institution of the United States has only done one other time. And it's a tragedy that this president has brought us to this point."

Mr. DeLay, the president's self-proclaimed arch enemy, emerged from the Republicans' dismal showing in the November elections more powerful than before. When the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, announced that he would step aside, Mr. DeLay, the top Republican vote-counter and political enforcer, quickly threw his support to Representative Bob Livingston, Republican of Louisiana, and used his whip network to help Mr. Livingston seal his victory as speaker.

And while some Republicans fretted that their party was headed for even worse political disaster unless they decried impeachment proceedings that were opposed by most Americans, Mr. DeLay demanded that Mr. Clinton resign and turned on the heat on the House Judiciary Committee proceedings. He eagerly filled the temporary power vacuum caused by Mr. Gingrich's abrupt departure and coaxed Mr. Livingston to take a tough stand for impeachment and against censure.

The speaker-to-be obliged last week, spurning a Democratic censure vote after the Judiciary Committee voted out four articles of impeachment.

Normally, a big looming vote in the House is attended by air-cracking hubbub and furious last-minute maneuvering by the powerful whip's operation. But Mr. DeLay and his allies have been so successful that it appeared his work was almost done, as many of the previously uncommitted Republicans have announced this week they would vote for impeachment.

Mr. DeLay has described the impending action as a "vote of conscience" and insists that neither he nor his huge whip organization has sought to put pressure on undecided members. But he and Mr. Livingston have said publicly that they would take a dim view of any Republican who refused to back up the leadership in blocking a floor vote on censure.

Representative John Conyers Jr. of Michigan, the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee, said recently: "Now, DeLay doesn't count by going knocking on your door saying, 'Would you fill in one of these boxes and send it back to me?' He goes in there with what? The hammer."

Some Democrats complained that pressure from Mr. DeLay and other leaders was behind the announcement Tuesday by Representative Jack Quinn, a moderate New York Republican and early opponent of impeachment, that he had changed his mind and would vote to impeach Mr. Clinton.

But both Mr. Quinn and Mr. DeLay denied that they had conferred before Mr. Quinn reversed his position and insisted there was no leadership meddling or pressure.

Mr. DeLay said the Democratic criticism "fits in with the pattern of conduct that the president is in trouble for — lying, covering up, stonewalling and demonizing their enemies."

## CLINTON: House Considers Delaying Vote

Continued from Page 1

Another question was whether an attack on Iraq might be sustained so long that the current House, in which Republicans hold a 228-to-206 edge, would be succeeded by the next, in which their vote margin is 11. Impeachment requires a simple majority: 218 votes. But one of Mr. Clinton's few assets during the year of scandal has been his standing in opinion polls: that support might evaporate if he were perceived to be waging war to gain political advantage.

Mr. Clinton's political situation deteriorated almost by the hour this week. At least three more undecided Republicans stepped before television cameras Wednesday to announce that they would vote for impeachment. Although Mr. Clinton was meeting with one undecided Republican, Representative Chris Shays of Connecticut, only the slimmest possibility remained of stopping the tide toward impeachment.

A series of administration spokesmen lashed out at the pro-impeachment forces, saying they were driven by raw partisan motivations. There were Republicans, said Mr. Lockhart, who sought "to punish the president because they don't like him, and they don't like the way he does business" and had embraced impeachment as a "tool in promoting their partisan efforts."

Vice President Al Gore made an 11th-hour plea for a compromise short of impeachment.

"I believe on Capitol Hill there is still

## U.S. Lines Up Forces in Gulf

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — U.S. bombers and warships armed with more than 400 cruise missiles stood ready in the Gulf on Wednesday, and military officials said they were awaiting an expected order from President Bill Clinton to strike Iraq.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, said that any strike by U.S. forces could come quickly in response to a United Nations report Tuesday that Iraq had broken its promise to cooperate with arms inspections.

"I would say, personally speaking, that such a move is very likely without any warning," an official said. "But I am not aware of any order now."

A month ago, before Iraq averted an American-led attack by pledging at the last minute to resume full cooperation with UN arms inspectors, the United States, with Britain, had been prepared to launch a first strike of nearly 300 cruise missiles from eight warships in the Gulf, followed by bombing raids by dozens of F-14 and F-18 fighters aboard the aircraft carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower and then by B-52 and B-1 bombers sent to the region.

All the firepower the United States was prepared to let loose on Iraq in November remains in the Gulf. In fact, the Pentagon has taken steps in recent days that have had the effect of increasing the amount of weaponry available.

Last week, the Pentagon announced that it was sending eight B-52s to replace seven now based on Diego Garcia, the British isle in the Indian Ocean. Between now and Christmas, all 15 B-52s will remain in the region.

A group of nine warships led by the aircraft carrier Carl Vinson is expected to arrive in the Gulf by the end of the week, joining the carrier Enterprise and 14 other warships in the Gulf, eight of them able to fire Tomahawk missiles. (Reuters, NYT)

## IRAQ: U.S. Is Ready to Begin Bombing

Continued from Page 1

London on Wednesday that the Iraqis had demonstrated a pattern of deceit and obstructionism in dealing with the weapons inspectors.

"The obstruction directly relates to the documents, sites and personnel that would give a clue as to the whereabouts of the weapons of mass destruction and their capacity," he said.

Mr. Blair added that Iraq's broken promises meant that no further authority was needed for attacks.

In Paris, a government spokesman said that the world was again "in a period of alert" for attacks.

"One might fear that the thing that France has sought to avoid since the very beginning cannot be avoided forever," said the spokesman, Daniel Vaillant.

That point was echoed by the U.S. State Department spokesman, James Rubin, who said: "There is no end in sight for this pattern of obfuscation, obstruction or outright violation. We can find no grounds for optimism that the Iraqi leadership, if left to its own devices, will suddenly change course and opt for cooperation."

The timing of any strikes could be complicated by the start of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month, this weekend. Officials have speculated that the United States would be unlikely to have a confrontation with Iraq during the holiday, fearing to stoke anti-American sentiment.

At the Pentagon, however, officials played down this factor. "The timing with all of these things is inconvenient, but it's not a deciding factor," an official said.

At the UN, Mr. Butler compounded his problems in Russian and French eyes by ordering his inspectors to leave Iraq without consulting the Security Council, although he did write a letter explaining his actions. He made the decision after speaking with the U.S. representative at the UN, Peter Burleigh, and with the secretary-general, Kofi Annan, a spokesman for Mr. Annan said Wednesday.

The Russian foreign minister, Igor Ivanov, accused Mr. Butler of going beyond his authority in calling for an immediate evacuation. The French echoed that complaint, which dominated

the morning Security Council session.

The International Atomic Energy Agency also withdrew its monitors from Iraq on Wednesday, although relations between the Iraqi government and the agency have been better than those between Iraq and the Special Commission. On Tuesday night, a report by the agency said that Iraq had given nuclear monitors "the necessary level of cooperation" to allow work to be done "efficiently and effectively."

By contrast, Mr. Butler said that Iraq "did not provide the full cooperation it promised on 14 November 1998." On that day, Mr. Saddam backed down from his ban on inspections in the face of an imminent military attack led by the United States.

## Saddam Consolidates Rule

Mr. Saddam divided Iraq into four military commands and handed their control to four trusted aides. The Associated Press reported from Baghdad, quoting Iraqi state media.

The move was apparently aimed at preventing uprisings against his rule in case attacks lessen his authority.

## ITALY: Appeals Court Frees Kurdish Rebel

Continued from Page 1

Ocalan's arrest in 1990 on homicide charges, declined to ask for his extradition, fearful of repercussions from Turkey and from Turks residing in Germany. Chancellor Gerhard Schröder said that an international court should try the guerrilla leader, but did not volunteer Germany as a venue.

Italy has also suggested that an international trial might be a suitable way of bringing Mr. Ocalan to justice, but was hoping the court could be convened elsewhere in Europe.

On Wednesday, both Mr. D'Alema and his foreign minister, Lamberto Dini, said that Italy would either have made Mr. Ocalan available for trial or expel him. Neither mentioned a third option of granting Mr. Ocalan political asylum.

Early on, Mr. D'Alema, a former Communist, refused to rule out political asylum, a choice favored by some left-

## Opposition Leader In Guinea Arrested

CONAKRY, Guinea — Tension rose in Guinea on Wednesday after a leading opponent of President Lansana Conte was arrested a day after the second multiparty presidential election in the country's history.

The Interior Ministry said that Alpha Conde, runner-up to Mr. Conte in the West African country's first presidential election since 1993, had been arrested trying to cross the closed border into Ivory Coast in disguise.

"There is a clear law which says that Guinea's borders are closed from Dec. 5 to 20," an official, Kiridi Bangouré, said. He referred to special security measures introduced for the election.

There was no immediate comment from the opposition.

Witnesses reported that youths loyal to the opposition had taken to the streets in some districts of the capital and were pelting cars with stones. Some international agencies told their staff to leave their offices and stay at home. (Reuters)

## Curbs on Chechens

GROZNY, Russia — Chechens awoke on Wednesday to a state of emergency in the breakaway Russian region, but there were no signs of any increased security in the capital, Grozny.

There were no additional checkpoints or military personnel on the streets.

Parliament declared the 30-day state of emergency on Tuesday to take effect overnight in response to a wave of lawlessness that culminated with the beheading of four Western hostages last week.

President Aslan Maskhadov appealed to Chechens in a televised address to gather in Grozny on Thursday morning at a meeting to protest the violent activities of warlords he accuses of leading a kidnapping ring. (Reuters)

## Pollution in Tehran

TEHRAN — The usually congested streets of Tehran turned quiet on Wednesday as Iranian authorities restricted traffic and closed all schools after air pollution levels reached six times the acceptable limit.

The capital began a program that uses number plates to regulate traffic. Cars with odd-numbered plates were banned for the day. It was not clear how long the measures would remain in place.

"More than 75 percent of air pollution in Tehran is caused by private cars," said Massoumeh Ebtekar, head of an Iranian environmental protection organization, Ebtekar. (Reuters)

## Spain Lawyers Say Law Lord Had No Bias

The Associated Press

LONDON — Lawyers for the Spanish government acknowledged Wednesday that a Law Lord linked to Amnesty International who ruled against General Augusto Pinochet had liberal views, but said these did not sway him against the former Chilean dictator.

"Some of your Lordships tend to take a more conservative approach and some a more liberal approach to matters concerning human rights," Alun Jones, a lawyer, told a five-judge tribunal in the House of Lords, Britain's highest court.

Discussion in British courts of the political views of judges is highly unusual and underlines the uniqueness of the case, in which General Pinochet's lawyers seek to outflank a 3-2 ruling that he has no immunity from prosecution as a former foreign head of state.

At the end of the two-day hearing, the judges said they might render their decision Thursday morning. If not, it will not be announced until after Christmas, they said.

The 63-year-old general was arrested Oct. 16 in London on a Spanish extradition warrant accusing him of genocide and other crimes against humanity committed during his 17-year reign. General Pinochet's lawyers had asserted Tuesday, the start of the hearing, that the Lords' Nov. 25 ruling denying him immunity should be overturned because one judge, Lord Hoffmann, is director of Amnesty International's fund-raising arm. In addition, Lord Hoffmann's wife, Gillian, has worked since 1977 in Amnesty's London office.

The human rights group says the Hoffmanns, South African opponents of apartheid who came to Britain in the 1960s, played no part in its 25-year campaign to put General Pinochet on trial.

Both sides acknowledged, however, that a key question is why Lord Hoffmann did not disclose his close ties with Amnesty before the first hearing, as is routine with judges.

General Pinochet's attorney, Clare Montgomery, said Wednesday that any reasonable person would believe Lord Hoffmann must have been predisposed against General Pinochet, adding, "That appearance cannot be allowed to stand."

General Pinochet's lawyers returned to the Lords after failing to persuade the British cabinet member with the final say on extradition, Home Secretary Jack Straw, that Lord Hoffmann was biased. Mr. Straw ruled Dec. 9 that Spain can start extradition proceedings in the courts.

## Zimbabwean Says He Fled Persecution

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Zimbabwe's former president, Robert Mugabe, who jumped bail shortly before he was convicted of sodomy last month, said Wednesday that he fled because he had "dangerous information" to discuss with regional leaders.

Mr. Mugabe told a High Court judge, Godfrey Chidyausiku, that he was being persecuted by his political enemies. Judge Chidyausiku remanded him under house arrest until his sentencing next Wednesday.

Mr. Mugabe, Zimbabwe's titular president until 1987, returned home Tuesday night after illegally slipping into Botswana and then South Africa, where he met with President Nelson Mandela on Dec. 3. (Reuters, AP)

Mr. Mugabe, a ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, said, "I think he will receive significant support because it's pretty obvious that Saddam Hussein is neither complying nor cooperating" with the UN arms inspectors.

Mr. Clinton, who returned late Tuesday from his four-day Middle East visit, began his day Wednesday with a 45-minute briefing in the White House Situation Room from his top national security advisers. He received updates through the day.

## ISRAEL: Netanyahu Threatens Elections

Continued from Page 1

the 17-member cabinet on the principle of ceding land were preventing passage of the 1999 budget.

In his Tel Aviv speech, Mr. Netanyahu challenged the Labor Party to back him Monday, when he is due to face a no-confidence vote. The prime minister has a slim 61-to-59 majority in Parliament.

He said he would ask his cabinet Sunday to endorse his demands that Palestinians meet his conditions before implementation of the Wye accord could proceed. If approved, the demands would go to lawmakers.

Ehud Barak, the Labor Party leader, swiftly announced that he wanted elections moved up from their scheduled date in 2000.

"Netanyahu has decided to give in to extremism," he told an Israeli television network. "We're going to elections."

"What kind of unity government can there be with a government that has surrendered to the extremists, smashes the economy, smashes the society, smashes the norms of government?" he added.

Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, who stood next to Mr. Netanyahu during his speech, appeared resigned to an early election in the absence of a unity government with Labor.

"In moments of crisis the leadership of a nation is chosen," he said. "We reached a crisis, and we need to overcome it."

Lawmakers talked earlier Wednesday

of elections taking place as early as the end of March, or even in May or June, to avoid scheduling conflicts with Jewish and Israeli holidays.

Political sources quoted Mr. Sharon as saying this week that an election could put the peace deal — already suspended by Mr. Netanyahu over alleged Palestinian violations — on hold for six months.

Mr. Netanyahu was applauded by the Likud faithful as he swore not to give up further territory unless the Palestinians met his conditions.

"These are the correct principles which are needed for the state of Israel, to ensure its future," he said. "It is necessary to unite most of the forces behind them."

But many hard-liners, who are loathe to cede further territory to the Palestinians, say they no longer believe Mr. Netanyahu when he promises not to make any further concessions.

Mr. Arafat has said he reserves the right to declare an independent state in May in the absence of a final peace agreement, a position Mr. Netanyahu says the Palestinians must publicly renounce for the Wye deal to proceed.

A Palestinian negotiator, Hassan Asfour, said Mr. Netanyahu wanted to buy the deal that Mr. Clinton tried and failed to keep on track during his visit.

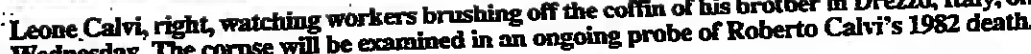
"We have fully respected our obligations and we will continue respecting them," said the Palestinian information minister, Yasser Abed Rabbo. (Reuters, AP)



## BRIEFLY

In Pec, six Serbs, including five teenagers, were killed and three were

thousands of refugees and help in the arrest of indicted war criminals.



**Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches**

The remains were taken to Milan for tests. Forensic scientists will look for signs of whether the man known as "God's banker" for his close

He was found dead days after the bank collapsed. (AP, Reuters)

By James F. Clarity  
New York Times Service.

the cornerstone of our foreign policy."

difficult for London to agree to talks giving the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic Irish Republic more influence in Northern affairs. The new Northern Ireland peace agreement approved in the coming days to solve that problem.

It is not, officials say, that the 12,000 strong Irish Army would play a major role in a big European war. Its role would continue


the case against  
grounds is persuasive.

## REVIEWS

"This figure is roughly equivalent to a half day's total military expenditure" globally, he said, "but will serve to

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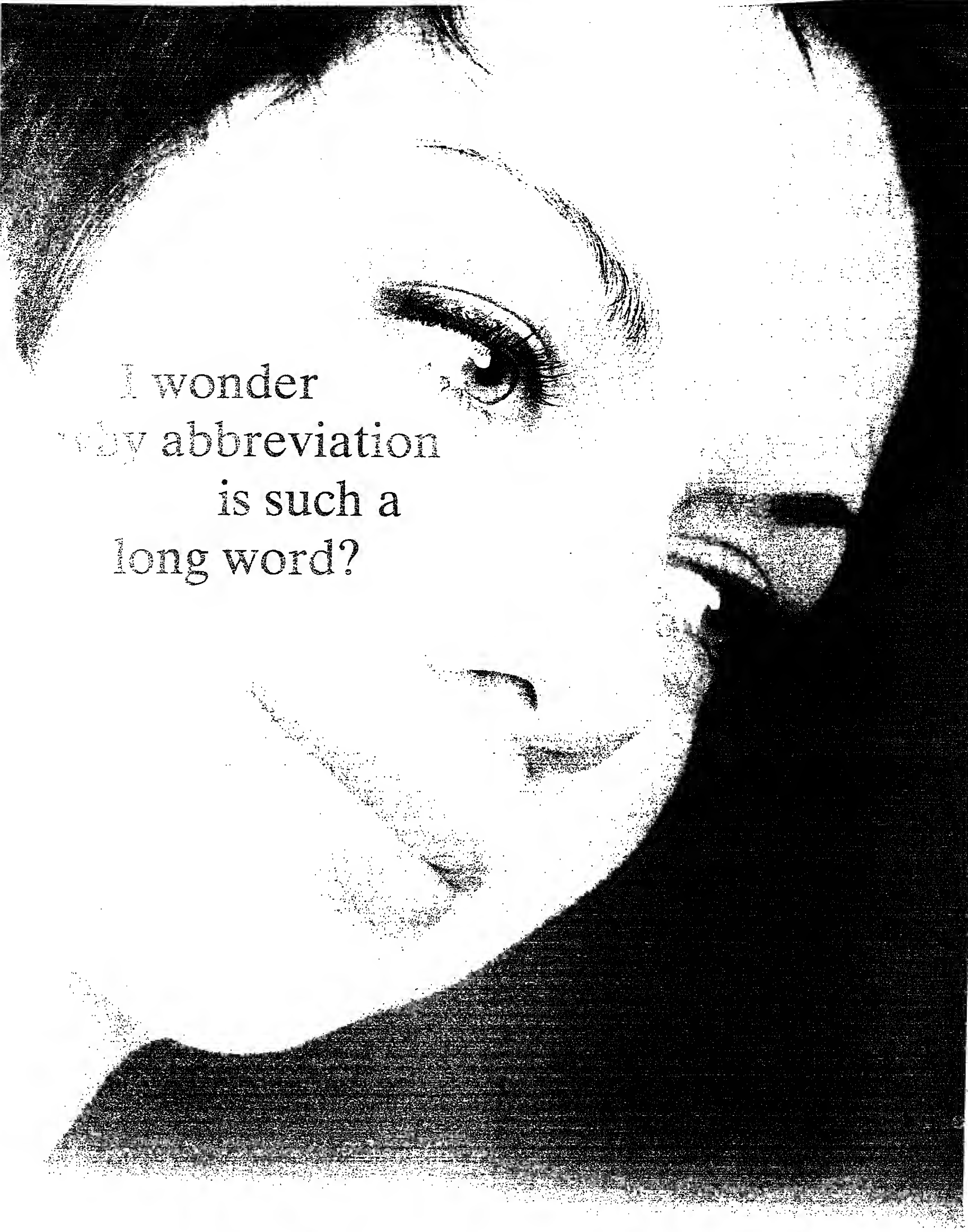
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# The Road Not Taken: With TV's Help, Li Wei Chooses a Career

By Elisabeth Rosenthal  
New York Times Service

BEIJING—Li Wei, an affable college senior, spent sleepless months this year wrestling with a life-altering decision. In January, he was offered a glamorous job in the Chinese headquarters of Procter & Gamble, with a princely starting salary of almost \$700 a month, a plush apartment and a pension plan. To recruit him, the company, based in Cincinnati, flew him first class to its office in Guangzhou—his first flight ever—and put him up at a five-star hotel.

But in April, Mr. Li, 22, a brilliant physics major at Nanjing University, received another offer, this one with more traditional cachet: a coveted place in the Ph.D. program in genetics at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, where he would share a concrete-floored dorm room with three other men and receive a \$50 living stipend each month. He bought the cheapest train ticket possible, a hard seat, to travel to Beijing to check it out.

For Mr. Li, it seemed a no-brainer.

"Of course, I said I would go to P&G," said Mr. Li, the younger son of well-educated urban Chinese parents. But his father, an economist at the provincial Communist Party school in Nanjing, had other ideas.

"He thought the academy was a great honor, that I should do something for the country," Mr. Li recalled in a recent interview. "And he thinks that studying is the right road and business is bad."

And so Mr. Li's future became the rope in a nasty tug-of-war, with modernity, money and capitalism pulling him in one direction and tradition, family and Communist ideology tugging powerfully in the other. In this fast-changing society, where career choices have expanded dramatically, a whole generation of Chinese is similarly torn.

Most classmates said he was crazy not to go corporate—1,000 students at his college had applied to Procter & Gamble, and only 8 were accepted. But there was also "heavy pressure" from his parents to take the other path.

The gulf between old and new view-

points seemed hopelessly unbridgeable. And then—as so often happens in China today—the old and the new found a surprising, even surreal, common ground: Mr. Li and his parents agreed to go on a television talk show called "Just This Time" to resolve the impasse.

In early May, Mr. Li and his parents sat at separate tables, smiling nervously, on the stage at Jiangsu studio in Nanjing. Mom in a conservative red dress; Dad in a white shirt and red tie, and Mr. Li in a neat polo shirt. The young host, Zhang Hongnan, with blow-dried hair and an announcer's voice, introduced the live audience to Mr. Li's problem.

"Every year before graduation, all students' hearts are filled with confusion because they are facing so many choices today," Mr. Zhang began, introducing a slick video that showed Mr. Li at college, the elaborate contract from P&G and his simple letter of acceptance from the academy.

Mr. Zhang spent the next half hour spinning through the audience, sharing the microphone with Mr. Li, his parents,

his older brother (a doctoral student in engineering), his uncle and the dozens of people who felt compelled to give advice. It was clear that the conundrum touched a deep chord. When viewers were told they could call after 9 P.M. to talk to Mr. Li, the station's switchboard was jammed until 2 A.M., prompting the station to schedule a second show on his decision.

That such debates occurred at all is extraordinary in a country where just five years ago most students were still being assigned jobs by the government. But by 1997, when Mr. Li started to ponder his future, students had "more choice than I ever dreamed I would have," Mr. Li said. And so, he both joined his friends at P&G's campus recruiting session and, at his parents' behest, prepared for the academy's rigorous entrance exams.

From the start, he said, he was drawn to the corporate job for its promise of on-the-job training. The high salary was "seductive" for a Chinese who had grown up in the more austere 1980s and whose family had often been short

of cash despite two successful parents. On the show, Mr. Zhang asked: "Do you think your dad is successful?" Li Wei: "In his field he's successful, but not in terms of economic return."

Father: "That's not how I define success." (Li Wei shook his head and smiled; he'd heard this one before.) Zhang: "Is that why you don't give him more money?"

Father: "He doesn't need money."

Li Wei: "Dad, come on, everyone needs money!"

Such debates rang through his circle of family and friends much of the spring. "We begged him," admitted his mother, an accountant.

"To have him get his Ph.D. is my dream," said his father, a gregarious man who oozes pride when he speaks of his son. "I think these companies are occupying our market and grabbing our best personnel. I think he should do something for China, not for America."

After Li Wei agreed to go on the show, hundreds of strangers chimed in.

In the studio audience, a college English major applauded his courage in favoring P&G. A young man in a buttoned-down white shirt said, "If he wants to go to the company, he should. Why waste four years?" (Applause from Li Wei.)

But others in the audience and the vast majority of the callers took the opposing view.

"Why do you want to work for foreigners?" asked a caller who said she worked for a Chinese cosmetics company.

Today Mr. Li remembers his television experience with a little shudder. But, he adds, it did help push him toward a decision.

A few weeks ago, he sat on a lower bunk in the dorm room he shares with three other students at the Academy of Sciences, ruminating over the road not taken. Room 510 is a Spartan place, decorated with a light-blue vinyl-covered wardrobe, a few bookshelves, a clothesline hung with socks, and four stacked plastic wash basins.

Mr. Li looked far more relaxed than he did on television.

"It was a very hard choice," he said. "P&G was such a different life and coming here was the traditional way." He hopes eventually that he will study overseas and that there will be even better jobs awaiting him when he graduates.

Still, he said, there are moments of regret. Like the time last month when a former classmate—who took one of those eight jobs at P&G—passed through Beijing on a business trip. She was staying at one of the city's fanciest hotels, the Great Wall Sheraton.

"We stayed up all night drinking tea and chatting at the hotel," he said with a wistful look. "It really made me think."

## Father Enters Fray In a China Trial

BEIJING—Protesting the lack of a defense attorney, the father of a prominent Chinese dissident will seek a delay in his son's trial for subversion, scheduled to start Thursday in the central city of Wuhan.

The defendant is Qin Yongmin, 45, a democracy advocate who has spent 10 years in prison or labor camps in the past and recently promoted an alternative political party.

Before the scheduled start of his trial Thursday, his father plans to present the court a written plea for postponement. The father, Qin Qingguo, 75, said Wednesday by telephone that he would walk out of the court if the plea is ignored.

Under the Code of Criminal Procedure, all criminal defendants have the right to a defense attorney. But the elder Mr. Qin said some lawyers he had approached refused to take the case while security officials had warned others not to get involved. He said that he had not agreed with his son's political tactics but felt he had no choice but to protest his treatment. Qin Yongmin was arrested Oct. 30.

(NYT)

## Confession Forced, Anwar Kin Says

KUALA LUMPUR—Lawyers for the former deputy prime minister of Malaysia, Anwar Ibrahim, read at his trial Wednesday a letter quoting his adopted brother as saying he had been tortured by police into lying that Mr. Anwar had sodomized him.

Prosecutors promised to prove, possibly with videotapes, that Sukma Dermawan had confessed voluntarily.

One of Mr. Anwar's lawyers read Mr. Sukma's letter aloud while questioning the police officer who led the investigation of Mr. Anwar. Mr. Anwar has denied the corruption and sex charges.

(Reuters)

## For the Record

At least 15 people were wounded by a grenade tossed into a crowded Philippine shopping mall in southern Zamboanga City, the police said Wednesday. The lone assailant escaped after the attack Tuesday night, about three hours before a 45-day cease-fire with Communist rebels took effect.

(Reuters)

## Students Clash With Officers In Jakarta

JAKARTA—About 1,000 Indonesian students clashed with the police in Jakarta on Wednesday while in the country's east hundreds of people rampaged, shouting "Burn Chinese shops!"

Witnesses in Jakarta said the police fired tear gas at the students as they tried to break through barricades near the defense department in the city's center.

A police spokesman said that at least 50 students had been arrested. Witnesses said at least one person had been injured, and there were unconfirmed reports of other injuries.

It was the first outbreak of violence in the capital in almost a week.

The students were demanding an end to the military's role in domestic politics and, for former President Suharto, to stand trial on graft charges.

Calling for a transitional government, another group of about 200 students managed to get into the presidential office compound in central Jakarta, President B.J. Habibie is out of the country, but in recent weeks troops have resisted any attempt by protesters to get into the compound area.

Elsewhere in the capital, hundreds of student protesters slowed rush-hour traffic as they demonstrated on the main



Kim Dae Jung being assisted up the stairs Wednesday as he visited the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi.

## Kim Tells Vietnam of Regret Over South Korea's War Role

HANOI—President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea has expressed regret over his country's role in the Vietnam War for the first time, but Prime Minister Phan Van Khai of Vietnam said Wednesday that his country did not expect apologies or reparations.

South Korea sent 300,000 troops to Vietnam over about an eight-year period, fighting alongside U.S. forces. More than 5,000 were killed.

The South Korean expression of regret came during a meeting between Mr. Kim and Mr. Khai on the sidelines of the Association of South East Asian Nations summit meeting here.

"We are not asking anyone to apologize or provide us with reparations," Mr. Khai said when asked by reporters if the United States also should make a similar statement.

"If they feel regret for what they did in the past, that's their decision," he said. "We want to close the past, look to the future and build better relations with other nations."

At a dinner Wednesday, Mr. Kim referred to an "unfortunate period between our two countries" and expressed hope for "a progressive and future-oriented bilateral relationship." He also said he hoped that North Korea, which maintains friendly relations with Hanoi, "will learn a great lesson from the policy of reform and openness of Vietnam." It was Mr. Kim's first visit to Vietnam since he took office early this year.

thoroughfare through the city center.

Some held a banner about a kilometer long, calling for an end to violence and human rights abuses. About 1,500 more protested outside the attorney-general's office in southern Jakarta, demanding that Mr. Suharto go on trial.

In Samarinda, an oil town in the In-

donesian part of Borneo island, more than 1,500 people attacked shops owned by ethnic Chinese.

The rioting erupted after a strike by about 500 transport workers demanding cheaper spare parts. It was not clear how many shops were damaged.

There were no reports of injuries dur-

ing the strife in Samarinda, in the province of Kalimantan, witnesses said.

The unrest was the latest in a spate of ethnic and religious attacks in the huge Indonesian archipelago as it grapples with deep economic recession and political instability.

## ASIA: Japan Unveils Another \$5 Billion in Loans as It Seeks to Counter Criticism of Its Role in Crisis

Continued from Page 1

Southeast Asia and Japan by asserting its claims to sovereignty over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. Vital supplies of oil and other raw materials reach Japan via sea-lanes that run through the area.

In a closed-door meeting Wednesday with Vice President Hu Jintao of China, four of the nine heads of government of the Association of South East Asian Nations voiced concern about China's occupation of Mischief Reef in the Spratlys, close to the Philippines, officials said.

President Joseph Estrada of the Philippines, who was one of the ASEAN leaders raising the issue, said afterward that Manila's position was that concerned parties should "exercise self-restraint and refrain from taking actions that would go against the peace, security and stability of South East Asia and the Asia-Pacific region."

"Unfortunately," he said, Mr. Hu did not respond in detail to the concerns expressed by the leaders. "Maybe he was pressed for time," Mr. Estrada added.

In a keynote address on the sidelines of the summit meeting of the leaders from 12 East Asian countries, including China,

South Korea and the ASEAN members, Mr. Obuchi said the region must "unite and cooperate" politically as well as economically, to resolve the economic crisis and settle strategic trouble spots in Korea and elsewhere that could flare up.

In his speech, which covered Japan's Asia policy, Mr. Obuchi said that the "backbone" of secure peace and stability in Asia had been the U.S. presence in the region and that Tokyo believed that a strong Japanese-U.S. security system was important in that context.

But Mr. Obuchi also said that the meeting in Hanoi should become a framework for "realizing regionalwide cooperation in East Asia," and that Japan, China and South Korea should intensify their contacts and aim to form "a trilateral network of dialogue."

Analysts say Tokyo hopes its proposal will become the nucleus of an ASEAN-type organization for defusing tension and building cooperation in Northeast Asia, which at present lacks any such regional forum because of deep-seated mutual suspicions among countries in the area.

Mr. Obuchi said that as part of this cooperative process, Japan and Russia should be brought into the four-party talks seeking a permanent peace to the divided Korean Peninsula. The talks

now include the two Koreas, China and the United States. Washington backs the Japanese bid to join the talks, but China and North Korea are opposed. "China wants to preserve its position," one Japanese official said. "The Chinese feel strongly about it."

Mr. Obuchi announced that Japan would provide concessional loans worth 600 billion yen (\$5.19 billion) over the next three years to help Asian countries stimulate growth and employment.

Japanese officials said that the credits—to be repaid over 40 years at an annual interest rate of 0.75 percent to 1 percent—would be used to build infrastructure projects, such as roads, bridges and irrigation and flood-control works.

Under the "tied" conditions of the loans, Japanese companies are to carry out the contract work so that they benefit as well as Japan's neighbors.

The special loan facility is separate from the \$30 billion Miyazawa Initiative fund announced earlier by Tokyo.

Japan said Wednesday that Malaysia would get construction loans and trade financing worth about \$2 billion under the Miyazawa program, while Thailand would get \$1.85 billion in loans for similar purposes. Other countries eligible for the aid include Indonesia, the Philippines, South Korea and possibly Vietnam.

Southeast Asian officials welcomed the increased Japanese aid but said that Tokyo should act more effectively to strengthen its own economy so that Japanese investment and bank loans would start flowing into the region again and so that Japan would import more Asian goods.

Japan has been repeatedly criticized by Southeast Asian countries for not doing more to rectify a large trade imbalance. Figures compiled by the ASEAN secretariat show that in 1997, Japan sold the region goods worth more than \$71 billion but only bought items worth \$42 billion in return.

The Japanese government has drawn up a stimulus package worth a record \$206 billion in an effort to end its protracted recession, in which unemployment has risen to an all-time high, bankruptcies have soared and consumer spending and business confidence slumped.

In his speech, Mr. Obuchi said that revival of the Japanese economy and a recovery in the rest of East Asia were interlinked because of the importance of the region for Japan in terms of trade, investment and bank loans. ASEAN countries owed Japanese banks a total of more than \$362 billion at the end of 1997, according to the Bank of International Settlements.

## AIDS: Changing Africa's Culture of Death

Continued from Page 1

Their finances pressed by the soaring death rate, burial societies are changing rapidly. Radizai Chamba, who runs one in her Bulawayo neighborhood, said her "joining fee" had risen from \$3 to \$45. Aunts and uncles of members no longer qualify as family, nor do children over 24 years old. And to prevent people from joining only when they are at death's door, there is now a macabre "waiting period"—no one dying in the first three months is paid for.

Nowadays, Mr. Magonya said, anyone who fails to join a burial society "becomes an enemy of the people he is living with. Because when you have a death problem, it becomes their problem."

African funeral rituals vary, but they usually involve bringing the body into the home for at least one night, washing it, a public viewing, a graveside service, a big meal for the mourners and a weeklong period of mourning in which friends and relatives sleep in the widow's room and around the house.

Besides the funeral itself, the family is expected to pay for the food and firewood, and some mourners even demand busfare home.

Largely for that reason, funerals in most countries have become radically shorter.

"Customarily, if my brother died, my uncles, cousins and grandmother used to come over and sleep at my house for a week to console me and keep me company," said Jean Ngwira of a United Nations project for HIV-infected people in Malawi. "Now they only stay a day or two."

In Uganda, said Dr. Donna Kabatesi, head of the Theta AIDS education project, the custom of showing respect when a neighbor dies by not working in one's garden for four days has been dropped. "You can't afford to do that now," she said. "You'd have no food."

Dr. Rachel Baggeley, a World Health Organization AIDS specialist who spent

six years working with farmworkers in Zambia, said big funerals had "become completely overwhelming for them. You had to pay for food, and drink and charcoal. It could easily cost a month's wages."

When she first saw farmers refusing workers a week off, she was shocked at their hard-headedness. "Then," she said, "I realized that some workers were just incredibly relieved."

By 5 P.M. Tuesday, Mr. Sibanda's house in the Emakandeni township is surrounded by neighbors and relatives. Outside, a red scrap of potato sack hangs from a tree branch, standing in for the red flag raised when a house has had a death.

Twenty men sit on benches outside, sharing a carton of sorghum beer. The women sit inside with the widow, their bare feet forming a tight circle on the floor of the two-room house as they silently weave wreaths.

Jecko Forbes Ndlovu, who lives next door, stands outside with a small bowl and a sheet of paper, tallying the donations from neighbors and visitors. Mrs. Chamba's burial society agrees to donate \$20 even though no Sibandas were members. That puts him over the top. There will be enough for a coffin, so Mr. Sibanda's body can be released.

By 8:30 A.M. Wednesday, about 70 mourners have gathered at the Sibanda house.

Mr. Sibanda was "a sociable guy, always making jokes with friends," says his half-brother, Muford Nkomo.

He was a gambler but not a drinker, says the Reverend Joel Dube of the nearby Truth-Faith Mission, who will lead the service. "He was a good member of the community—a man with no trouble with him."

When he became ill, he left his traditional beliefs and "came to our church," Mr. Dube says.

Mr. Sibanda's wife, Norah, seems stunned into silence. She is thin, but there is no discussion of whether she, too, is infected. Two of their children,

## Bodyguards Save Mandela in Storm

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

UMTATA, South Africa—President Nelson Mandela returned Wednesday to the damaged town of Umtata where a day earlier he escaped injury in a tornado that killed 18 people.

A total of 163 people were injured. The disaster was compounded because the storm badly damaged Umtata's hospital. Mr. Mandela visited the hospital and businesses that were damaged.

Mr. Mandela, 80, who was on vacation at his birthplace in Qunu, 20 kilometers (12 miles) outside Umtata, was shopping at a pharmacy when the storm hit Tuesday.

The storm shattered the windows of the pharmacy, blew down the door and collapsed part of the roof. Mr. Mandela's bodyguards acted quickly to protect the president, said his spokeswoman, Priscilla Naidoo.

"When they saw glass shattering they laid the president down and shielded his body from flying debris," she said. "They were on the ground for about 60 seconds."

Mr. Mandela and his bodyguards emerged unharmed.

(Reuters, AP)

including the 5-month-old baby, are not well, relatives say.

It is Mr. Sibanda's 17-year-old daughter, Margaret, who weeps openly. Now there is no one to pay her \$25-a-year public school tuition, she says. Three of her friends have seen their parents die, and had to drop out. Now they are maids, earning \$8 a month.

Meanwhile, the mourners have chipped in enough to hire a bus to take them to the cemetery. A neighbor with a small truck comes to fetch some male relatives. There are so many Sibandas in the mortuary that the funeral service needs help picking out the right one.

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## EDITORIALS/OPINION

## Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

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## Vote No on Impeachment

Just about any citizen who follows the news could write the one-paragraph synopsis of what history will make of William Jefferson Clinton, a man blessed with great talent and afflicted with a mysterious passion for lying. But as the members of the House of Representatives gather in the Capitol, our thoughts must turn to the question of what history will make of this Congress's handling of its impeachment powers. That judgment will hang on whether the designated speaker, Bob Livingston, produces a result that depends on something other than the fact that he can muster the votes to do what he chooses. Mr. Livingston and his political id, Tom DeLay, should know that only in the recording of battles does history applaud the unmitigated application of power. When it comes to governance, the laurels are reserved for those who demonstrate wisdom.

To predict historical judgments, of course, one must first examine past judgments. Why, for example, has Congress's handling of Watergate and the resulting forced resignation come to be regarded as a model of constitutional process? The fundamental reasons are that the congressional consensus to punish Richard Nixon was bipartisan and that a majority of the American people, including many of his former supporters, wanted him out of the White House.

## The Partisan Bias

The opposite realities prevail in the case of Bill Clinton's crimes. Two-thirds of the American people want him to finish his term. The vote against him will be almost strictly partisan, meaning that the Republican victory will meet the arithmetic requirements of the constitution but will not carry its magisterial authority. History, in our view, will condemn the Republicans for using their constitutional powers as an instrument of partisan vengeance. That instrument was intended as a scalpel for the cutting out of cancers, not for the excising of unsightly pimples.

We say that from the platform of our record of consistently criticizing Mr. Clinton's ugly little lies, his abject failure to lead by example and to speak truthfully to the American people, his equally dismal failure to honor the historic residence entrusted to him, and his abandonment of his constitutional duty to defend and uphold the law. He is, in sum, a man you cannot trust whether you have his handshake, his signature or his word on a Bible.

If impeachment by the House and removal by the Senate would simply harm him and not the constitution, we would be all for it. But under the present circumstances of a polarized party-line vote, it would assault the constitution as well as public confidence in that most precious American asset, the orderly, quadrennial surrender of power from one chief executive to another.

That transfer of power without gunfire or legislative chicanery is the jewel in the crown of American democracy. It should not be sacrificed over Mr. Clinton's inability to resist looking at things underwear. If the Republicans remove him by simple force of numbers, the debate over whether this was a political coup will continue for decades and could become a bigger threat to civic stability than Mr. Clinton's mendacity.

## Constitutional Precedents

Today, the House will be setting precedents by which the nation will be governed when this presidency is a memory as distant and distasteful as that of Warren Harding. A basic principle for impeachment ought to be that presidents stay in office unless the case against them is so strong that it persuades at least a substantial part of the public — and their representatives in Congress — on the grounds specified by the constitution.

Another basic threat to future interpretation of the constitution is the Judiciary Committee's insistence that impeachment could be undertaken as a kind of "ultimate cure," rather than a sinner, considered recommendation that the president be removed. This aberrant interpretation of constitutional procedure invites promiscuous application of the impeachment process whenever future presidents and Congresses find themselves in unresolvable partisan conflict.

Although the words allow for a wide range of interpretation, the Republicans in the House cannot pretend, in the manner of a Bill Clinton disquisition on

the meaning of "is," that they do not understand the core import of "high crimes and misdemeanors." The phrase refers to offenses against the state that threaten the nation's security or the stability of its civic order and to major personal crimes such as murder.

Mr. Clinton's offenses threaten us with embarrassment. They cry out for condemnation so that no citizen will be tempted to follow his example or regret his departure — in due time. But they do not threaten the future of a republic that defines itself through politics and whose politics defines itself through conflict.

## The Moderates' Duty

We come to that position after warning often and, according to some of our critics, too forcefully about Mr. Clinton's poisoning effect on political trust and on Washington's respect for campaign finance laws. We believe the evidence presents an ironclad case that he lied, by plan and repeatedly, while under oath in a civil suit and before a grand jury. But the lies were those of a sneak, not those of a person plotting to topple or betray the government.

In advocating censure, we have consistently urged the House not to offer it in the absence of an admission of lying by the president. But now that the moment is at hand, we urge the moderate Republicans who hold the balance of power to vote against impeachment even if Mr. Clinton does not confess.

## Clinton's Day

We shall see whether Mr. Clinton, like Achilles, sulks in his tent, or whether he sheds his defendant's weeds and becomes a shaper of his fate. Surely he sees that he returned to Washington to find few elements of his presidency intact beyond his stubbornness and the public's desire to see him finish out the most disappointing White House tenure since that of Richard Nixon. Wrapped in dishonor, his face a mask of depression, Mr. Clinton presents his staff and congressional mediators with the highly unusual task of rousing a president to coping with the realities of his job and situation.

To be sure, Mr. Clinton is not the only stockholder in this coalescing disaster. The right-wing captivity of the Republican Party has never been more destructive. We have to believe that the much-maligned Newt Gingrich, had he continued to function as speaker, would have exerted statesmanlike leadership. As a scholar of history, Mr. Gingrich heading the House would have recognized that the case developed by Representative Henry Hyde and the Judiciary Committee was not impeachable. As a practicing bully, he would not have covered, as Mr. Livingston did, before the Republican strongarmers.

## The Wisdom of Censure

To be realistic, the censure option still has a pulse, but it is as faint as it can get without stopping altogether. While Mr. Clinton was in Israel, the band of 30 or so undecided Republican moderates dwindled to a handful because the president refused to meet their price of an admission that he lied under oath. What happens next in that regard depends in part on whether Mr. Clinton and his lawyers enter the last-minute bargaining being urged by two junior Republicans, Representatives Christopher Shays of Connecticut and Michael Castle of Delaware. Mr. Shays is reportedly willing to bring a half-dozen or so Republicans and some cooperating Democrats to the White House. Perhaps they could thread the needle by selling Mr. Clinton such language as "I lied under oath, but that intent was not in my heart."

Moderate Republicans can confidently vote against impeachment in the knowledge that, if impeachment fails, even the Republican leaders will want the kind of censure they have disingenuously dismissed as unconstitutional. Even if impeachment passes, according to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, such a resolution could be offered as a binding substitute that would have the force of law once the president signed it. As such, Mr. Moynihan said, it could be worded so as to make future prosecution a practical impossibility, freeing Mr. Clinton to admit what everyone knows about his repeated and purposeful lies.

We elected him to lead a great nation. He became a prince of disorder. Now it is up to Congress and the public to limit the damage caused by his irresponsibility.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## The Revulsion Clinton Inspires Hurts Him Enough

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — The looming impeachment of President Bill Clinton has seemed like a bad, inexplicable car wreck along a normally peaceful highway to the rest of the world. Rubbernecking and tottling briefly at the ghastly details, the leaders and citizens of foreign nations have sped on to their own destinations, leaving Americans to sort out the roadside wreckage and casualties.

The arrival of judgment time in the House of Representatives changes this detachment. The vote raises in compelling form the question of Mr. Clinton's effectiveness in his remaining time in office — however long that is, and whether he wins or loses.

The president's Democratic defenders play the effectiveness card on his behalf. They claim that Mr. Clinton has earned no more than a rebuke because he has been such an effective leader. They also warn that the nation and the world cannot afford the disruption that a Senate trial would bring.

They exaggerate on both counts. In foreign policy, the threat of impeachment seems to have focused Mr. Clinton on leadership tasks that he often treated with intermittent indifference.

Arriving back in Washington from a

historic Middle East trip shortly before the full House was due to vote, Mr. Clinton had on his White House schedule for Friday a semiannual summit meeting with European Union leaders to discuss trade and other matters.

"Two things will be true when we sit down with him, whatever the House vote may have been," says an ambassador from one EU member country. "First we will thank God none of our daughters is married to him, and then we will do business with the president of the United States in a spirit of alliance and partnership because he is the president."

Such duality is the stock in trade of diplomats. But it may also usefully inform the votes of House members who face conflicting and unpalatable choices: Sending the president to a Senate trial on moral charges, or risking the chutzpah and bad judgment that getting away with it one more time could inspire in a seemingly incorrigible Mr. Clinton.

The House confronts tragedy in its classical form: The actors have done what they could not escape doing. They

now face consequences more dire than they could imagine. And yet they will still be unable to resolve the deep contradictions they have unleashed.

This is as true of Mr. Clinton's prosecutors and pursuers as of the disgraced president, the first lady and their defenders. This is life itself, not one-dimensional politics or divine retribution. In life itself the opposite is always present; both things, however badly disputed and seemingly irreconcilable, are often true.

The Judiciary Committee's hearings established for me beyond a reasonable doubt that two big things are true: Mr. Clinton lied under oath to a federal grand jury, betraying his office, his supporters and his family. This is no mere private matter. And the evidence is equally convincing that Kenneth Starr and associates knowingly set a perjury trap around the president's sex life that Mr. Clinton foolishly thought he could outwit.

I would find it impossible to vote for impeachment because of the prosecutor's tactics. But that does not mean that others who reach the opposite conclusion are acting unreasonably, irresponsibly or wastefully. It is no accident this is a close call.

Another Clinton escape does not

mean that the impeachment debate has been a waste to this point, or that sending the matter to the Senate in the face of likely acquittal there is futile. Even in survival, Mr. Clinton will emerge from this experience chastised if not chastened, humiliated if not humbled.

He may choose not to recognize that. There would be the constant risk that he would fall back into the costly mocking superiority he evidenced after November's congressional elections.

But there is no "victory" in this battle for Mr. Clinton. If he stays in the White House, he will inhabit Eden after the fall. His days of victory and vanity are over, ended by his own personal behavior and official mendacity.

The nation, and the world, will watch to see if he can seek genuine atonement in the time he has left.

Shortly after the 1992 election, one of Mr. Clinton's closest confidants told me that their biggest job in Washington would be to restore confidence in leadership and government. Instead, Mr. Clinton will inspire distrust, cynicism and revulsion for years to come among many Americans. Living with that knowledge should be punishment enough for any mortal.

The Washington Post.

## The Senate Could Easily Determine the Length of a Trial

By Charles Krauthammer

WASHINGTON — Of all the arguments against the House of Representatives voting even a single article of impeachment and sending President Bill Clinton's case to trial in the Senate, the most powerful is probably this: Do you really want to see a six-month trial presided over by the chief justice of the United States, paralyzing the Senate, monopolizing America's attention, fixating the media and featuring from the ballroom floor of the Senate Monica Lewinsky testifying in Valleyspeak?

The prospect is too awful to contemplate. Which is why Democrats, in a desperate attempt to save Mr. Clinton from the ignominy of impeachment by the House, have been playing up this scenario.

It is the "Guns of August" argument: Once the House votes to impeach, it has triggered a process — like the mobilization plans of the Great Powers on the eve of World War I — so rigid and fixed and irreversible that once the trains start rolling, there is no stopping the eventual catastrophic wreck.

This is a powerful argument, except for one thing. It is based entirely on a

falsehood. It assumes that a Senate trial, once begun, must soldier on regardless to the bitter end. It overlooks perhaps the single most important Senate rule regarding impeachment trials: The Senate may, by a simple majority vote at any time, end the proceedings.

This, of course, does not happen in a regular trial. The jury does not have the right to tell the judge that it has had enough and declare the whole thing over. But the U.S. Senate does.

Which suggests that the House can impeach with the knowledge that a Senate trial could be short and dignified.

Imagine the following scenario. On Dec. 17, the House passes, say, two articles of impeachment, both on perjury. On Jan. 6, the Senate convenes and the trial begins. The House, in the person of Henry Hyde or his staff, presents the charges for, say, half a day. The president's lawyers present their defense during the other half. That night the Senate votes to issue a strong censure and end the case.

Given that the evidentiary basis for this trial is so clear, given that dis-

covery has been going on for a year under the auspices of the independent counsel, given that the arguments both pro and con have been so well rehearsed that they can be (and by now are) delivered by rote — there is absolutely no need to go on.

During the interval between Dec. 17 and Jan. 6, respected Senate leaders of both parties could work out a consensus censure resolution. These might include, among Democrats, Joseph Lieberman, who delivered the most important speech of the entire scandal-ridden year and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, retiring sage from New York; and, among Republicans, Orrin Hatch, who for months has been waving an olive branch at the president, and Trent Lott, the majority leader.

House leaders might join the discussion. But not the White House. This is not a plea bargain. There is no need for the president's signature on a censure resolution. Indeed, it would be an odd sort of censure that required the assent of the censured.

Let the trial begin, and end almost

immediately. Let the Senate then pass whatever censure it wants — it might even decide to forgo censure on grounds of its problematic constitutionality — and let the whole Lewinsky matter be consigned finally to history.

No long national nightmare. No degrading spectacle. No media circus. End of story.

Mr. Clinton would then enter history as a president impeached, but not removed from office, for his assault on the truth and the legal system. That is censure-plus.

On the question of whether the House should impeach, there are honorable and serious arguments to be made on both sides: Whether or not Mr. Clinton's mendacity rises to the level of high crime; whether or not censure is a permissible constitutional substitute; whether or not censure is a desirable substitute.

But one argument sure to be made in the House — that the House must not impeach the president because of the sheer horror and embarrassment of a protracted and sordid Senate trial — is nonsense.

Washington Post Writers Group.

## A Proposal of Economic Reform for Our Generation

By Gordon Brown

Mr. Brown is chancellor of the Exchequer of Britain.

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — More than half a century ago, leaders who were still engaged in war took the time to prepare for peace. They created not only new international institutions and new rules for the international economy, but they gave expression to a new public purpose based on high ideals. A generation who had known the Depression of the 1930s and the desperation of war, they knew that just as peace could not be preserved in isolation, so prosperity could not be maximized in isolation.

The initiatives and institutions of the Bretton Woods era were shaped to the conditions of the time. The international rules of the game then largely con-

sisted of open current accounts, fixed exchange rates and closed capital accounts and of collective support when countries ran into balance of payments problems. And for nearly 30 years the system worked. But over the next generation eventually the sheer force of international financial flows successively ended dollar convertibility into gold, the fixed exchange rate system, and post-war Keynesian certainties.

The 1980s saw a new consensus emerge, essentially an attempt to return to laissez-faire. It said that all government

was bad: that government can't make a difference, at least a positive one, in jobs and growth, and that global markets have to be left entirely to market dogmas.

By 1997, an increasingly turbulent and inadequately supervised international financial system threatened to create boom and bust on a global scale. The postwar hope for an indivisible prosperity was replaced by the sudden fear of indivisible instability.

In recent months, as interest rates have come down, and the G7 group of leading industri-

alized nations have set a timetable for reform, financial markets have become less unstable. But this is no time for complacency.

I believe the Third Way initiated by Tony Blair has profound relevance for the challenge we now confront on the global stage. The issue is not one of either markets or government, but how markets and government can best work together.

We must rediscover the public purpose and high ideals of 1945 with four major reforms that add up to a new economic constitution for the new global economy.

First, we need new rules of the game for the global economy. All countries, rich and poor, should agree to apply new codes of conduct for transparency and disclosure as a condition for participation in the international financial system. These internationally agreed codes of conduct would cover monetary, financial and fiscal policy and corporate governance. The codes will require accurate reporting to the international community, by each national economy, of all relevant information. And they will involve both the private and the public sector.

Secondly, because today's financial markets are global, we need not only proper national supervision but also global financial regulation. That is why Britain has proposed bringing together the IMF, the World Bank and key regulatory au-

thorities in a new permanent Standing Committee for Global Financial Regulation, not an additional institution, but a process of monitoring developments in global finance.

Third, we need a modern framework for crisis prevention and resolution. Our aim must be to identify potential problems at an early stage where preventive action can be effective. This framework must be rooted in greater transparency, reliable surveillance, and networks for cooperation between the public and private sectors in which both accept their responsibilities.

Fourth, we propose a code of global best practice in social policy that will be applicable to every country. It will set minimum standards, and will ensure that when the IMF and World Bank help a country in trouble the agreed program of reform preserves investment in the social, education and employment programs that are essential for growth.

This is more than simply a collection of proposals. It rests on a modern vision of government, doing the right thing, but not everything; of markets working, but not always perfectly; of principles of economic and social justice that reflect our best values and ultimately determine world stability and growth. This is a program of reform for our generation.

This article was adapted from a speech delivered at Harvard University.

## Back to the Nuclear Question

By George F. Kennan

PRINCETON, New Jersey — The press reports of the interest being recently taken by the new German government in the question of "first use of nuclear weapons" in NATO policies bring to my memory certain happenings of a period a little short of half a century ago, which are not completely irrelevant to that subject.

At the end of 1949, just as I was terminating my period of duty as director of General George Marshall's policy planning staff, the U.S. government was just confronting the question of whether or not to proceed to the development of the hydrogen bomb to replace the less destructive one we had used against the two Japanese cities. Robert Oppenheimer and I, having both been involved with certain of the inner-governmental discussions of this subject, both felt that before taking this fateful step, it would be better for our government to pause a bit and to ask itself just where the adoption and cultivation of this new form of weaponry might lead us.

We both recognized the danger that if the weapons of mass destruction were to be built into our regular military posture, we might find ourselves deeply committed to this sort of imagined warfare, and our commitment might stand in the way of further progress in the elimination of weapons of this nature.

In the first days of January 1950, I, having just been relieved of my own official duties and responsibilities, wrote a personal letter to the new secretary of state, Dean Acheson, on this subject. I described the question as I then saw it: Would

we proceed to develop this weapon and to build our defense posture around it? Or would we regard it as something to be held reluctantly, in reserve for use only in response to a nuclear attack against us, but leaving us free to go as far as the other nuclear powers were prepared to go in efforts to eliminate this form of weaponry from international arsenals?

Our public position, I wrote, should be this: "We deplore the existence of all weapons of indiscriminate mass destruction. We regret that we were ever obliged to make use of one. We hope never to have to do so again. We do not propose to do so, unless we are forced to it by the use of such weapons against us. Meanwhile, we remain prepared to go very far, to show considerable confidence in others, and to accept a certain risk for ourselves, in order to achieve international agreement on the removal of such weapons from international arsenals; for we can think of nothing more dangerous than a continued international competition in their development."

In support of this position I argued, among other things, that no victory and no security were to be won for our people by the sort of destruction these devices were capable of working. The results they could produce would mean at best only a deterioration of the conditions of civilization for people everywhere, including ourselves. The victories that mattered never would be real victories unless they involved changes — ben-

eficial changes, changes leading in the direction of greater tolerance and forbearance and hopefulness — in the minds of men; and such changes could never be brought about by sheer destruction, and particularly the destruction of innocent life on so vast and indiscriminate a scale.

I can recall no reply from Mr. Acheson, but some days later, on Jan. 15, 1950, President Harry Truman announced the intention of our government to proceed with the development of the new nuclear weapon.

Were I to be asked how the statements I brought forward in that letter might appear to me today, I would have to say that not only do I stand by every word of them but also I consider their reasoning to have been richly confirmed, reinforced and strengthened by the events of the intervening half-century.

This being the case, I can only commend the insight and courage shown by the new German government in bringing this subject once more to international attention.

I hope that all the major nuclear powers will take their policies under scrutiny and will ask themselves today, as we and they might well have done five decades ago, where our rejection of the principle of "no first use" has led us to date, and what effect it promises to have on the development of international security in the future.

The writer, a former ambassador to the Soviet Union, is professor emeritus of historical studies at the Institute for Advanced Study. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

## 1898: Military Appeal

MANILA — Naval and military authorities here say Washington should decide upon a Philippine policy at once. They think the Philippine Republic will soon lose the support of the country, owing to the excessive taxation it has imposed upon the rich natives. In addition there is no security for property in the provinces. An American officer, whose name I am not at liberty to disclose, is strongly in favor of a decisive blow being struck and American rule established, although he differs from some of his fellow officers with regard to the formation of mixed regiments of natives and Americans. In his opinion, the military force ought to be entirely composed of United States troops.

ing itself filmed as a squalid, reeking quarter. So it has rebelled and driven Thomas Meighan, the film star, and his supporting cast of "Pied Piper Malone" from the district under a shower of stones, broken pottery and ancient vegetables. Policemen entered the houses from which the missiles were thrown and found everybody either sleeping, reading or working.

## 1948: Russian Crime

MOSCOW — Thirteen industrial executives and engineers have been sentenced to from five to ten years in prison each on the ground that they were responsible for production of low-grade cigarettes, coal, men's suits, padlocks, tools and sewing machines. The action serves as a general warning to industrial executives that the production of inferior quality goods constitutes a crime punishable by stiff prison terms.

## 1923: Chinatown Rises

NEW YORK — Chinatown has become tired of hearing and see-

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مركز الأصل















## THE AMERICAS

## Stocks Slide as U.S. Sabers Rattle Over Iraq



## Very briefly:

- Financial turmoil overseas has derailed a steady stream of record profits at U.S. commercial banks. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. said. The country's 8,910 banks earned \$15 billion in the July-September quarter, down 7 percent from a record \$16.1 billion in the April-June period, the sixth consecutive quarter of record profits, it said.
- Polaroid Corp. will take fourth-quarter charges of \$90 million to cut as many as 700 jobs, or 7.6 percent of its work force, and dispose of Russian assets as the photography company pares inventory and copes with weak economies overseas. The company, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, said it expected the moves to save it \$20 million to \$30 million over the next two years.
- The U.S. Federal Reserve Board may order banks to limit their lending to hedge funds in the wake of the near-collapse of Long-Term Capital Management, a Federal Reserve Board official told Congress. Among guidelines being developed for U.S. bank holding companies are increased scrutiny of the credit-approval process that would require banks to estimate worst-case loss scenarios for loans to hedge funds, and a new set of policies about the minimum level of collateral needed for such loans.
- America Online Inc. said holiday traffic on its shopping channel has been three and a half times higher than last year with shoppers spending an average of 50 percent more than they did in 1997. This included 750,000 first-time on-line shoppers in the first two weeks of the season, AOL said.
- Planet Hollywood, faced with plunging restaurant sales, is selling its new headquarters and a New York restaurant to pay creditors. The sale of the two properties could bring in about \$60 million, said Robert Earl, the company's chairman.
- Starwood Financial Trust said it was buying the commercial mortgage loan portfolio from Lazard Freres Real Estate Investors for \$280.3 million. Starwood also said Lazard Freres would buy \$220 million of its preferred shares and warrants.

AP, Bloomberg, Reuters

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**NEW YORK** — Stocks fell Wednesday as investors worried about the latest U.S.-Iraq standoff and 3M joined the list of blue chip companies warning of lower fourth quarter earnings.

Uncertainty hit the market as President Bill Clinton met with his top advisers to consider military strikes in response to Iraq's latest defiance of international arms inspectors. Top House leaders said they would likely delay the impeachment vote Thursday if Iraq were bombed.

Oil shares and crude oil futures gained amid speculation that the United States would lead an air strike to force Iraq to comply with resolutions levied after the Gulf War in 1991.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 29.09 points, or 0.3 percent, at 8,938.37 an hour before the close, but declining issues outnumbered advancing ones by an 8-to-7 margin on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index slipped 1.41 points to 1,182.34, while the Nasdaq composite index was 3.45 points lower, at 2,015.24.

Treasury bonds rose as concern over an eventual attack on Iraq and declines in the stock market bolstered demand for safer investments. The price of the benchmark 30-year issue rose 8/32 to 103 23/32, pushing its yield down to 5.01 percent from 5.03 percent on Tuesday.

Shares in Amazon.com soared more than 25 percent after an analyst at CIBC Oppenheimer predicted the stock would reach \$400 in 12 months, more than double his previous estimate.

Amazon.com shares have risen more than ninefold this year as in-

vestors bet that more people would buy a variety of products from the top on-line retailer, which has yet to earn a profit.

"The insanity goes on and on,"

## 3 P.M. SNAPSHOT

said David Simons, managing director of New York-based Digital Video Investments, an institutional research company. Other Internet-related stocks also rose.

America Online stock jumped after it reported a sharp increase in

## Drug Tester Buys Claims Processor

Bloomberg News

**DURHAM, North Carolina** — Quintiles Transnational Corp., the largest provider of drug trials and market research for drugmakers, said Wednesday that it would buy Envoy Corp., a health-claims processor, for \$1.7 billion in stock, gaining a new source of work.

The acquisition, Quintiles' third this week and its 13th of the year, sent the company's shares down \$9.6875 to \$46.50 in late trading. Envoy jumped \$7.4375 to \$49.6875.

Each Envoy share will be exchanged for 1.166 Quintiles shares, giving Envoy shareholders a 55 percent premium based on closing prices Tuesday.

Envoy processes more than 1 billion health-care claims a year, giving the means of providing drugmakers instant feedback on how their products are being prescribed and used.

on-line shopping.

CMG Information Services rose after the company that finances Internet companies said revenue for the first quarter ended Oct. 31 rose 59 percent as it gained from selling investments in Internet video store Reel.com and other companies.

Crude oil futures rose 9 percent on the New York Mercantile Exchange on speculation that military action could cut exports from the Middle East. The contract for January delivery of crude was up \$1.02 at \$12.57 a barrel. Shares in oil pro-

ducers and companies that provide oil-production services rose.

Stocks fell sharply early in the day after Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing became the 10th of the 30-Dow industrial companies to warn that profit would not meet expectations.

In economic news, the Commerce Department reported that U.S. builders started construction of new units at a seasonally adjusted 1.65 million annual rate in November, down 2.7 percent from October.

(AP, Bloomberg)

## Dollar Mixed as Market Turns Attention to Iraqi Situation

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**NEW YORK** — The dollar was mostly higher against other major currencies Wednesday as concerns over the impeachment proceedings against President Bill Clinton were offset by the growing tensions between the United States and Iraq.

"The impeachment issue and Iraq are competing for attention," said Michael Malpede, analyst at Refco Inc.

Referring to a possible House vote to impeach the president, Jeffrey Yu, a dealer at Saawa Bank, said, "It's not going to bode well for the markets."

A renewed flare-up between the United States and Iraq helped reverse the dollar's early losses, and buoyed the dollar against the Deutsche mark.

"It looks like the White House may have to push the button to send missiles to Iraq," said Jeremy Fann, a strategist at BankBoston in Boston. "That fires up standard safe-

haven buying of the dollar. You don't want to own Deutsche marks if there's a conflict in the Middle East."

The dollar fell to 116.450 yen in late trading from 116.565 yen Tuesday. But it rose to 1.6725 Deutsche marks from 1.6610 DM.

Also supporting the dollar against

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE

the mark was the weaker-than-expected survey on West German business sentiment.

The report was seen suggesting there will be more pressure on the European Central Bank to lower interest rates early next year to fuel economic growth.

Against other major currencies, the dollar climbed to 5.6095 French francs from 5.5652 francs, and rose to 1.3505 Swiss francs from 1.3440 francs. The pound fell to \$1.6710 from \$1.6850.

(Bridge News, Bloomberg)

## Internet-Based Recording Standard Gets Industry's Nod

By Jon Pareles

New York Times Service

**NEW YORK** — If all goes according to plan, music fans will be able to buy top hits for electronic delivery through the Internet by Christmas 1999.

Leaders of the Recording Industry Association of America and chief executives of five major recording companies said Tuesday they would work with major technology companies to develop the "secure digital music initiative," a standard for delivery of music over the Internet.

The standard would let copyright

owners control the distribution of their music while making it easily available for sale.

Microsoft Corp., Sony Corp., AT&T Corp., International Business Machines Corp., Toshiba Corp., and America Online Inc. are among the companies that announced support for the initiative.

With the standard, consumers would need only one kind of software "player" for all the music released by major companies, which control about 90 percent of the recorded-music market in the United States.

The Recording Industry Association of America and the London-based International Federation of the

Phonographic Industry, which represents companies in 70 countries, have also joined the initiative.

Those companies have been reluctant to sell music directly through the Internet for fear of piracy. "We need copyright protection," said Hilary Rosen, the chief executive of the Recording Industry Association of America, "but we must not stifle technology to get it."

The features of the standard, Ms. Rosen said, await the decisions of the initiative, which will begin full-time work in February. But they would probably include copy protection, which would limit the number of

copies that can be made, encryption, which is a way of making sure that only an authorized consumer can play back the music, and watermarking, which would show the source of the music, a way to trace back pirated music to its source.

While the major labels have waited to create a digital distribution system, a de facto technological standard has arisen, known as MP3.

MP3 compresses digital audio information to a size that makes it relatively practical to send over the Internet, and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Web sites offer MP3 music files ready for downloading.

The Trib Index	Level	Change	% change	year to date % change
World Index	194.43	+0.51	+0.26	+12.97
Regional Indexes				
Asia/Pacific	88.81	+0.31	+0.35	+7.56
Europe	224.58	+1.71	+0.77	+16.34
N. America	275.43	-0.58	-0.21	+27.52
S. America	76.56	-1.78	-2.19	-48.54
Industrial Indexes				
Capital goods	281.76	-1.71	-0.60	+36.40
Consumer goods	239.56	+0.88	+0.38	+14.22
Energy	199.01	+1.59	+0.80	+2.08
Finance	133.12	+0.88	+0.67	+6.26
Miscellaneous	184.06	+2.19	+1.20	+22.80
Raw Materials	159.11	-1.35	-0.85	-4.86
Service	206.81	+0.64	+0.31	+18.54
Utilities	179.59	+1.06	+0.59	+7.62

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index tracks the U.S. dollar value of 280 internationally investible stocks from 25 countries.

## AMEX

**Wednesday's 3 P.M.**  
The 200 most traded stocks of the day.  
The Associated Press

Stock	Price	High	Low	Open
IBM	125.12	125.12	125.12	125.12
Microsoft	115.12	115.12	115.12	115.12
Apple	110.12	110.12	110.12	110.12
Oracle	105.12	105.12	105.12	105.12
Sun	100.12	100.12	100.12	100.12
HP	95.12	95.12	95.12	95.12
Motorola	90.12	90.12	90.12	90.12
Intel	85.12	85.12	85.12	85.12
Cisco	80.12	80.12	80.12	80.12
Comcast	75.12	75.12	75.12	75.12
Verizon	70.12	70.12	70.12	70.12
AT&T	65.12	65.12	65.12	65.12
WorldCom	60.12	60.12	60.12	60.12
Qwest	55.12	55.12	55.12	55.12
Sprint	50.12	50.12	50.12	50.12
Time Warner	45.12	45.12	45.12	45.12
News Corp.	40.12	40.12	40.12	40.12
Disney	35.12	35.12	35.12	35.12
Amgen	30.12	30.12	30.12	30.12
Genentech	25.12	25.12	25.12	25.12
Novartis	20.12	20.12	20.12	20.12
Pfizer	15.12	15.12	15.12	15.12
Merck	10.12	10.12	10.12	10.12
Roche	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.12

## U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Dec. 16, 1998

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## INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Dec. 16, 1998

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## Amid Asia Gloom, Hong Kong Clothing Retailer Sets Sights Far Afield

Esprit shares rose 11.2 percent Wednesday to 3.23 Hong Kong dollars (cents). They are up 30 percent this year compared with a 15 percent decline in the Hong Kong All Ordinaries Index and a 3.8 percent drop in the benchmark Hang Seng Index.

Mr. Ying, who started finding Asian

Hong Kong is "overbuilt, oversupplied," Mr. Yung said of the dozens of brand names that line Hong Kong's

company's aggressive expansion plans at a time when Europe shows signs of slowing and Asia has not yet bottomed. The company saw its net profit fall 3 percent last year to 155.1 million dollars after setting aside 125.3 million dollars for one-time losses on stock investments.

...There will be incoming quite a few

people," he said. "Because we are here and they are here also, people talk to us."

and emerging markets accelerated. In the first 10 days of December, more than 20 European companies listed or were in the process of doing so. A similar number of U.S. companies have held initial stock sales

Asset Management.  
Generally, European computer v

banks will have companies preparing for an IPO," said Amin Mansour, head of syndication at Rabo Securities, which managed the sale of KSI.

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## OPINION/LETTERS

C'mon, Mr. President,  
Just One More Lie

By Maureen Dowd

WASHINGTON — Newt Gingrich has principle looked so unappealing.

If the president keeps standing on principle and the Republicans keep standing on principle, the two sides will blow each other up and turn the rest of us into rubble.

Just for the sake of argument, let's say both sides are, as they claim, standing on principle.

The Republicans' principle is this: A president who lies is not fit to serve.

Uh, O.K.

We really, really need to work hard here to suspend our disbelief that the Republicans are driven by principle, rather than any rabid, unreasoning hatred of Bill Clinton.

We will ignore the fact that Representative Bob Barr of Georgia called for Mr. Clinton's impeachment long before anyone ever heard of Monica Lewinsky.

We will ignore the fact that the Republicans did not seem to mind lying when they defended Richard Nixon for so long, or when George Bush called Clarence Thomas the best-qualified person to put on the Supreme Court, or when Republican senators zipped into Anita Hill to save Judge Thomas.

We will ignore Henry Hyde's argument in 1987 that it was all right for Ronald Reagan and Oliver North to lie about Iran-Contra because we should consider the lie's context. "It just seems to me too simplistic to condemn all lying," Mr. Hyde (no, must have been Dr. Jekyll) said then, according to *The Los Angeles Times*. "In the murky grayness of the real world, choices must often be made."

But now the Republicans say they are acting on principle. That's their story, and they're sticking to it. Let's move on to the president.

Mr. Clinton's principle is this: He cannot admit he lied under oath because that would be a lie.

He said, Sunday, that he would not say he lied under oath to the grand jury because "I could not admit to doing

something that I am quite sure I did not do."

Uh, O.K.

Well, somebody has to ask you this, Mr. President, so it may as well be me: Since when?

From the draft to Gennifer Flowers to Monica Lewinsky, you, sir, have always been, as Senator Bob Keiser, Democrat of Nebraska, once put it, an unmissably good liar.

Why stop now, when a lie could save your presidency? This is a fine time to become a pathological truth-teller!

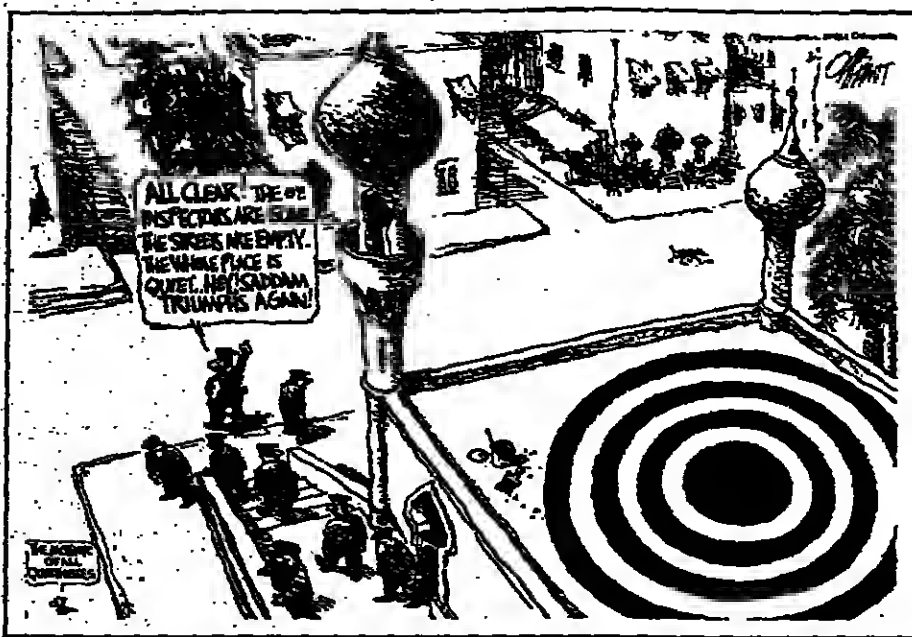
Your mind, Mr. President, should have been concentrated by the prospect of your hanging.

But for some reason, you seem to have lost the knack for whispering sweet nothings in our ear. You seem to have lost your ability to do whatever it takes to win.

Just because Hillary Rodham Clinton will not pitch in this time, do not let us down.

If you do not admit to lying to the grand jury, to appease the handful of moderate Republicans who are saying that is what it would take to get their votes, you will be impeached by the House.

You have built a career on



appeasement. Why stop now?

You say that saying you lied would be a lie. But isn't this a little linear for you?

After all, you have always enjoyed a situationist relationship to the truth.

Even if you have really convinced yourself that you were difficult but not deceitful before the grand jury, even if you are still clinging to the delusion that you never did have sexual relations with

"That Woman," even if you are nervous about being prosecuted after you leave office, you must do what you have always done before: Please, compartmentalize, Mr. President.

ident, compartmentalize.

Now that Americans are looking down the barrel of a long and scalding impeachment trial, this is not the time for William Jefferson Clinton to do a George Washington imitation.

This is the moment for Bill Clinton to be Bill Clinton. This is one of those rare instances when two wrongs do make a right.

Come on, Mr. President, you can do it. It's just like getting on a bicycle.

After all, failing to lie now would be an even more destructive act than telling that lie back on Jan. 21 was, when

you wagged your finger at the nation.

Do it for us, if not for yourself. You've lied before to save yourself. Now you must lie to save us.

A huge majority of Americans believe you committed perjury and still want you to stay in office.

Back in January, you faced a similar dilemma — to lie or tell the truth. You asked Dick Morris to take a poll to see which way you should go.

Do now what you did then. Read the poll. Tell a lie.

Tell us what we want to hear.

The New York Times.

## Sonia Gandhi's Foreign Chic

By Sunanda K. Datta-Ray

SINGAPORE — According to a bitter little joke that did the rounds of Calcutta during Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's emergency rule between 1975 and 1977, India's troubles were due entirely to Raja Rammohan Roy. He was an 18th century Bengali social reformer who spearheaded the movement to ban *suttee*, the Hindu practice of burning widows on the husband's funeral pyre.

Today, stories are flavored with extra spice. For not only does another female, and a widow to boot, loom large on India's political horizon, but Indira Gandhi's daughter-in-law, Sonia, who led the disgraced Congress party to victory in three states in recent elections, was born abroad.

Listening to these tales, you would be justified in supposing that Indians are as upright about the rest of the world as the Chinese with their Middle Kingdom complex and horror of *gweilos*, or foreign devils.

Actually, no country could be less xenophobic. Indeed, many historians hold that India's receptive attitude to all comers, be

Royal Navy admiral but also Winston Churchill's cousin.

Nor is Mrs. Sonia Gandhi the Congress Party's first female European chief. There was Annie Besant, a radical humanist who went on to found the Theosophical Society; also Nellie Sengupta, the English wife of a Bengali nationalist barrister on whom Indians had bestowed the sobriquet of Deshapriya, Lover of his Land.

Some of these women were dragons, bellying Francis Fukuyama's idyllic view that a world run by women "should become less aggressive, adventurous, competitive, and violent." When the British closed down the nationalist-spiritual magazine that Sister Nivedita edited, she warned darkly of violence. "Evidently the Government is thirsting for the day when the propaganda of assassination shall be the only method of service for men who desire to give their lives to their country," she wrote. Fearful of her revolutionary activities, the Ramakrishna Mission, the religious order with which Swami Vivekananda was connected, eventually had to disavow her.

Mrs. Besant was just as formidable, declaring during World War I, "The moment of England's difficulty is the moment of India's opportunity." She too had to be restrained by Indians. "Mrs. Besant, you are distrustful of the British; I am not, and I will not help in any agitation against them during the war," Mahatma Gandhi admonished her. He believed then that a victorious Britain would voluntarily grant India independence.

I once heard someone suggest that so many of these European women attached themselves to eminent Indians that some might have been plants. This was at a time when people in the milieu in which I grew up were beginning to suspect the influence of Lady Mountbatten, the wife of the last British viceroy, Lord Mountbatten, on Jawaharlal Nehru, soon to be India's first prime minister after independence.

But those rumors were soon squashed. Whatever might be whispered about the last viceroy's consort, not an adverse word would Indians tolerate against foreigners, men and women, who gave themselves to a people and a cause so far from home. That was an act of identification that deserved gratitude.

Foreigners might even have an edge in a land that places such a high value on everything imported. Mahatma Gandhi was addressing Chinese women, not locals, when he said in 1947 that if only they united, they could "kick away the atom bomb like a mere ball."

So Mrs. Sonia Gandhi has everything going for her. She is a woman in a male-dominated society and an outsider in a land that loves foreigners. Nor, if Mrs. Gandhi does scale dizzy political heights, would she find it lonely at the top. Little noticed at home and abroad, India's first lady, President K.R. Narayanan's wife, is Burmese.

The writer, a former editor of *The Statesman* in India, is an editorial consultant with *The Straits Times* in Singapore. He contributed this comment to the *International Herald Tribune*.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Rights and Responsibilities

Regarding "But Consider Human Responsibilities," by Tommy Koh (Opinion, Dec. 10):

Mr. Koh argued for a UN Declaration of Human Responsibilities. He did so in the form of a report from a meeting in Hamburg organized by Die Zeit and the Asia-Europe Foundation, which Mr. Koh runs.

As one of the participants in the meeting, I can testify that Mr. Koh's description is correct for half of the meeting. He did not, however, reflect any of the valid arguments against the proposed declaration which made the majority of the participants decide not to support the idea of a new declaration.

The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights mentions duties, including the necessary limitations to freedom of speech and some of the other rights. A parallel declaration on duties would con-

fuse the interpretation of the human rights standards, especially as the two texts partly would cover the same subjects. The discussion about individual responsibilities is of great importance but it should not be advanced in a manner that undermines human rights.

THOMAS HAMMARBERG, Stockholm.

The writer is a special representative of the UN secretary-general for Human Rights in Cambodia.

## No Praise for Pinochet

Regarding "Pinochet's Hour of Fear Puts Torturers on Notice," by George F. Will (Opinion, Dec. 12):

Mr. Will's claim that Augusto Pinochet did not destroy Chilean democracy, but rather bravely saved it from a would-be Hitler, is so historically confused and morally repugnant that it defies

the efforts of a healthy imagination. When right-wing ideologues like Mr. Will use such language, it becomes very clear what they mean by "democracy": a brutal dictatorship that ignores the rights of the poor majority in favor of foreign investors and a small domestic elite.

ALEXANDER ZAITCHIK, Prague.

## A Cool Writer Unmasked

Regarding "The New Women and the Old Classics" (Dec. 4):

In describing Miles Davis' "Complete Birth of the Cool," Mike Zwerin underscores the nonet's singularity, including the French horn and tuba. He modestly refrains, however, from mentioning that one of the other players on 13 of the tracks is a trombonist by the name of Mike Zwerin.

DAWAYNE J. VIERGUTZ, Heidelberg, Germany.

## ADVERTISEMENT



## OPEN LETTER

To: His Excellency Ato Isayas Afeworki,  
The President of the State of Eritrea and His Excellency Ato Meles Zenawi,  
The Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

From: Friends of Eritrea and Friends of Ethiopia

Dear Sirs,

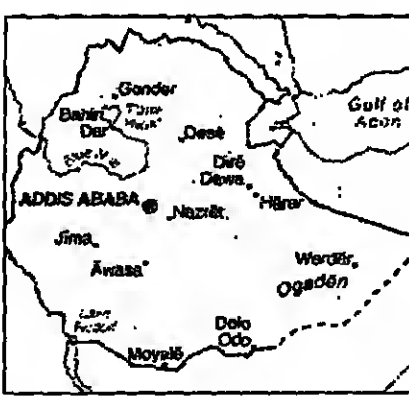
In deep appreciation for your leading role in the liberation of your countries and for your energetic efforts in setting your peoples on a course towards self-determination and prosperity, we turn to you in a call for peace.

We have been deeply concerned to note the rapid and unexpected deterioration of the erstwhile close collaborative relations between your two countries and governments, to the point where another wave of dismal and devastating conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia has become a real possibility. That close relationship had become symbolic for a new leadership of Africa to so many of us, and we have been grateful for it as well as hopeful that its excellent example might soon pervade the continent for a real and positive change. Instead, the horrendous prospect of a major and protracted war is looming and we find it very hard to believe or accept that the present stalemate — unwanted, undesirable or complex as it may be — is worth it or would even remotely justify the staggering human costs and sacrifice that it would entail. History will be a harsh judge if war were indeed to come about, and war itself would have only losers. We can only see a mega tragedy unfolding.

Even at this 11th hour, there is still room for a radical change of course opening up to a win-win situation rather than its opposite. As national leaders and two outstanding proponents for liberation and development, millions of people trust in you to create a way to peace. Therefore, in the name of humanity, and with the best interests of the people of Eritrea and Ethiopia in mind, we urgently appeal to you to take the necessary steps towards a peaceful settlement, which will be marked as a historical achievement and facilitate for your peoples a future of justice, love, peace and prosperity.

## SIGNED:

- Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for Africa;
- Dr. Katumile Masire, Former President of Botswana;
- Mr. Desmond D. Tutu, Archbishop Emeritus and Nobel Peace Prize Winner;
- Mr. Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, Executive Secretary Global Coalition for Africa;
- Dr. Wole Soyinka, Nobel Prize Winner and one of the leaders for democratic change in Nigeria;
- Mrs. Mairead Maguire, Nobel Peace Prize Winner and Honorary President of the Peace People;
- Mr. Olusegun Obasanjo, Former President of Nigeria;
- Professeur Dr. Mathai Wangari, The Green Belt Movement, Kenya;



- Mr. Adolfo Perez Esquivel, Nobel Peace Prize Winner;
- Dr. Beyers Naudé, of South Africa;
- Dr. Basil Davidson, famous Historian on Africa;
- Dr. Francis Deng, Scholar at the Brookings Institute and Former Sudanese Foreign Minister of the Sudan;
- Mrs. Sadako Ogata, UN High Commissioner for Refugees;
- Professor Dr. Amos Sawyer, Former President of Liberia;
- Dr. Robert MacNamara, Former United States Secretary of Defense and former President of the World Bank;
- Mr. Herman Cohen, Senior Advisor at the Global Coalition for Africa and former US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs;
- Professor Dr. Theo van Boven, Former Director of The United Nations Department for Human Rights in Geneva;
- Mr. Bona Malwal, Members of The Sudanese National Leadership Council;
- Dr. Martin Doombos, Professor of Political Science ISS;
- Dr. Cees Hamelink, Professor of Mass Communication University of Amsterdam;
- Mr. Rae McGrath, Nobel Peace Laureate;
- Dr. Fatima Babiker Mahmoud, President Pan-African Women Organisation;
- Mr. Neil Kinnock, European Commissioner and former leader of the British Labour party;
- Mrs. Glenys Kinnock, Member of European Parliament;
- Cardinal Godfried Danneels, Archbishop and President of Pax Christi International;
- Dr. Certi Hesseling, Director African Studies Centre;
- Dr. Lionel Cliffe, Professor of Political Science at the University of Leeds;
- Mrs. Hildegard Goss-Mayr, Winner of the Nivano Peace Prize and Honorary President of International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR);
- Dr. Abdullahi A. An-Na'im, Professor of Law at the University of Emory;
- Professor Dr. Mahmood Mamdani, Director Centre for African Studies Cape Town;
- Professor Dr. E. Bleumink, President of the University of Groningen;
- Dr. June Rock, University of Leeds;

For reactions, please contact: Mr. H.Y.G. c/o Dutch Interchurch Aid (SOH)

P.O. Box 13077, 3507 LB Utrecht.

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## ADVERTISEMENT



## ASEAN Pact Speed Trade Liberalization

**HANOI** — Southeast Asian leaders signed agreements Monday to liberalize their economies in an effort to encourage a return by foreign investors who have fled amid the region's worst economic crisis in a half-century.

The agreements include plans to speed up implementation of a free trade area and provide incentives for investors over the next two years.

A joint declaration added a number of points to the draft written before the summit meeting, including a commitment to "accelerating economic and financial reform" and "laying the 'international community' also has a responsibility to support our reform efforts through bilateral and multilateral assistance."

It also encouraged increased use of ASEAN currencies for trade within the region and said an early warning surveillance mechanism had been put in place to encourage early action to avoid emerging risks.

The Statement on Bold Measures, released at the end of the meeting, included a slight speeding up in the implementation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area, known as AFTA.

Under the new terms, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand will target full implementation of a tariff-free zone in the region by 2002 — a year earlier than the previous plan.

But the leaders agreed to add the words "with some flexibility" to the new target date.

The more recent entrants in ASEAN, Vietnam, Laos and Burma, also agreed to speed implementation, but their timetable is longer.

The leaders also agreed to accelerate the transfer of more products to the list of those whose tariffs will be affected by the trade agreement.

The agreements include special incentives that apply to manufacturing investment applications from foreigners in the next two years. The incentives include 100 percent foreign ownership, a minimum three-year corporate income tax exemption or a minimum 30 percent corporate investment tax allowance, duty-free imports of capital goods and a minimum industrial leasehold of 30 years.

## Goldman to Aid Chinese Firm

By Seth Faison  
New York Times Service

**SHANGHAI** — Goldman, Sachs & Co. announced Wednesday that it would enter a partnership with the government of Guangdong Province in southern China to help rescue one of the region's biggest state-owned companies.

Guangdong said it had hired Goldman as a financial adviser, the first time a foreign investment bank will work for a provincial government in China. Goldman also said it would buy a 20 percent stake in Guangdong Enterprises Holdings Ltd., a state-owned conglomerate based in Hong Kong.

The deal comes at a critical juncture in China's slow-going financial reform. Concerned about the effects of Asia's economic crisis, leaders in Beijing have lost their enthusiasm for fast reform of their currency and stock markets.

At the same time, China is proceeding with an overhaul of its troubled banks and investment companies, with the aim of clearing up mountains of debt before they can cause serious problems, like those elsewhere in Asia.

Guangdong Province, the most affluent and free-wheeling area in China, has been at the forefront of the nation's market reforms for nearly 20 years. However, together with a creative interpretation of socialist ideology has come lax supervision and an abundance of questionable dealings with government money.

In October, Beijing sent a clear message that it would get together with its investment companies when it announced that it was closing down Guangdong International Trust & Investment Co., which was unable to pay back \$2 billion in domestic and foreign loans.

Yet, rather than press any kind of financial collapse, the closing signaled a shift away from largely outdated stock company financing and toward a more modern financial system built around banks and capital markets. The announcement Wednesday appears to be another step in that direction.

"To restructure so comprehensively a company like this is a first for China," said Wang Qishan, Guangdong's executive vice governor.

Now, Goldman partners have agreed to put millions of dollars of their own money into a company that will require an extensive restructuring before it shows any return on the investment.

## Japan's Current-Account Surplus Soars

Continued from Page 11

**TOKYO** — The Japanese current-account surplus surged 21.5 percent in October from a year ago, the government said Wednesday, increasing the chances of trade friction with the United States.

The current-account surplus, unadjusted for seasonal factors, was at \$11.4 billion in October, the Finance Ministry announced, up 14.06 percent from the sixth consecutive monthly year-on-year increase.

The current account measures the

difference between income from foreign sources and foreign obligations payable, excluding net capital investment.

The trade surplus, which has been growing for more than two years, widened by 19.9 percent to \$13.12 billion, the Finance Ministry said. Exports slid 6.5 percent, the first year-on-year drop in five months, to \$36.3 billion, while imports plunged 16.8 percent, to \$23.2 billion.

Junji Ota of Okasan Economic Research Institute said the current-

account data showed no sign of a slowdown in exports to the United States.

"A drop in exports to other Asian nations is the simple explanation for the overall decline," he said, adding, "Exports to the United States will continue growing from the previous year at the present pace at least through this year."

Satoru Ogawara of Credit Suisse First Boston said significant changes in Japan's trade data were not expected until mid-1999. (AP, AFP)

## Toyota Plans To Shut Plant Amid Slump

Continued from Page 11

**TOKYO** — Toyota Motor Corp., the largest Japanese automaker, will close a factory for the first time in its history as sales in Japan stagnate amid the country's worst recession in 50 years, the carmaker's president, Hiroshi Okuda, said Wednesday.

The maker of Camry sedans and Lexus luxury vehicles will cease production at one of three factories belonging to an affiliate, Kanto Auto Works Ltd. The daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun reported that the carmaker may cut capacity by 8 percent over three years, to 3.5 million vehicles. The carmaker's production peaked at 4.2 million units in 1990.

"We're dropping the oldest plant of the three," Mr. Okuda said. "Our judgment is it will not need capacity of more than 3.5 million."

Separately, Toyota said its domestic car output fell by 5.9 percent in November from a year ago, to 226,999 units, after falling 10.6 percent in October.

A Toyota spokesman, Tetsuo Kitagawa, said the final decision to close the factory would rest with Kanto Auto Works. Toyota owns 49 percent of the unit.

"I have a feeling other companies will follow," said Hideaki Shimada, an analyst at Mito Securities Co. "Domestic demand has cooled off, and exports will fall as they switch to local production."

Mitsubishi Motors Corp. has said it will close its Mariko factory near Tokyo. (AFP, Bloomberg, APX)

## TRUMP: Tel-Com Shares Lose Some of Their Glitter in a Wild Market Ride

Continued from Page 11

clear." Bloomberg said she had not decided whether to resign as chairman of the 5th Avenue Channel, which is majority owned by Tel-Com, but her withdrawal coincided with another fall in the stock, which closed at \$6.675 on Monday. It has since recovered, and was at \$9.24 late Wednesday, up 14.06 percent.

Tel-Com's chief executive and majority shareholder, Melvin Rosen, also suggested that short sellers were behind the latest stock drops. "We evidently have signif-

icant short-sellers in TCTV stock," Mr. Rosen said.

In addition, Tel-Com has tried to play down Mr. Arnold's connection to the company. On Dec. 7, Tel-Com issued a news release that quoted Mr. Rosen as saying, "Although the Baron's article alleges 40 connects Charles S. Arnold to the company in some sinister way, the fact is that Mr. Arnold is, at most, a shareholder of our company who was a shareholder prior to my becoming president."

On Dec. 10, Mrs. Trump said in a statement, "It would appear that

when Mr. Rosen became President of Tel-Com, he inherited Mr. Arnold and his group as shareholders, but not in any other capacity."

Mr. Rosen said that Tel-Com would take "all necessary and appropriate steps to resolve the situation of Mrs. Trump's satisfaction."

He noted that the Dec. 14 Barroo article did not "allege any charges" against the company.

The company also announced a deal in May to have its programming, to be hosted by Mrs. Trump, carried by Fashion TV, which it reaches about 100 million house-

holds in Europe and Asia.

In Paris, however, Fashion TV took exception to the statement, contending that Tel-Com 10-Q filing, which was filed for the third quarter, that a signed contract exists.

"We met them nearly one year ago," said Alana Fischbein, marketing manager for the company, which itself is planning to go public on France's Nouveau Marche in the coming months. But she said there was no signed contract and that Fashion TV wanted to see 5th Avenue Channel's programming before committing to carry it.

## Investor's Asia

Hong Kong	Singapore	Tokyo
Hang Seng	Straits Times	Nikkei 225
15000	1550	17000
15500	1600	17500
16000	1650	18000
16500	1700	18500
17000	1750	19000
17500	1800	19500
18000	1850	20000
18500	1900	20500
19000	1950	21000
19500	2000	21500
20000	2050	22000
20500	2100	22500
21000	2150	23000
21500	2200	23500
22000	2250	24000
22500	2300	24500
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29500	3000	31500
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31500	3200	33500
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40500	4100	42500
41000	4150	43000
41500	4200	43500
42000	4250	44000
42500	4300	44500
43000	4350	45000
43500	4400	45500
44000	4450	46000
44500	4500	46500
45000	4550	47000
45500	4600	47500
46000	4650	48000
46500	4700	48500
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48500	4900	50500
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49500	5000	51500
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50500	5100	52500
51000	5150	53000
51500	5200	53500
52000	5250	54000
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53000	5350	55000
53500	5400	55500
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59500	6000	61500
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69500	7000	71500
70000	7050	72000
70500	7100	72500
71000	7150	73000
71500	7200	73500
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79500	8000	81500
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82500	8300	84500
83000	8350	85000
83500	8400	85500
84000	8450	86000
84500	8500	86500
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85500	8600	87500
86000	8650	88000
86500	8700	88500
87000	8750	89000
87500	8800	89500
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89000	8950	91000
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94500	9500	96500
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96000	9650	98000
96500	9700	98500
97000	9750	99000
97500	9800	99500
98000	9850	100000
98500	9900	100500
99000	9950	101000
99500	10000	101500
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100500	10100	102500
101000	10150	103000
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105500	10600	107500
106000	10650	108000
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133000	13350	135000
133500	13400	135500
134000	13450	136000
134500	13500	136500
135000	13550	137000
135500	13600	137500
136000	13650	138000
136500	13700	138500
137000	13750	139000
137500	13800	139500



**Wednesday's 3 P.M.**

**Wednesday 3 P.M.**  
The 1,000 most traded National Market securities  
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.  
*The Associated Press.*

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	Change
Am. Tobacco Co.	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Sugar Ref.	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Cotton Oil	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Petroleum	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Lumber	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Paper	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Glass	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Rubber	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Leather	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Iron	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Steel	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Coal	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Oil	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Gas	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Electric	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Telephone	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Telegraph	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Printing	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Book	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Stationery	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Furniture	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Hardware	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Dry Goods	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Groceries	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Meat	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Fish	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Fruit	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Vegetables	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Beverages	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Confectionery	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Cigarettes	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Alcohol	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Perfumery	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Cosmetics	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Toiletries	100	98	99	98	100	-1
Am. Miscellaneous	100	98	99	98	100	-1

Order	Line Label	Qty	Unit	Price	Total
1	1000	1	kg	100.00	100.00
2	2000	2	kg	200.00	400.00
3	3000	3	kg	300.00	900.00
4	4000	4	kg	400.00	1600.00
5	5000	5	kg	500.00	2500.00
6	6000	6	kg	600.00	3600.00
7	7000	7	kg	700.00	4900.00
8	8000	8	kg	800.00	6400.00
9	9000	9	kg	900.00	8100.00
10	10000	10	kg	1000.00	10000.00
11	11000	11	kg	1100.00	12100.00
12	12000	12	kg	1200.00	14400.00
13	13000	13	kg	1300.00	16900.00
14	14000	14	kg	1400.00	19600.00
15	15000	15	kg	1500.00	22500.00
16	16000	16	kg	1600.00	25600.00
17	17000	17	kg	1700.00	28900.00
18	18000	18	kg	1800.00	32400.00
19	19000	19	kg	1900.00	36100.00
20	20000	20	kg	2000.00	40000.00
21	21000	21	kg	2100.00	44100.00
22	22000	22	kg	2200.00	48400.00
23	23000	23	kg	2300.00	52900.00
24	24000	24	kg	2400.00	57600.00
25	25000	25	kg	2500.00	62500.00
26	26000	26	kg	2600.00	67600.00
27	27000	27	kg	2700.00	72900.00
28	28000	28	kg	2800.00	78400.00
29	29000	29	kg	2900.00	84100.00
30	30000	30	kg	3000.00	90000.00
31	31000	31	kg	3100.00	96100.00
32	32000	32	kg	3200.00	102400.00
33	33000	33	kg	3300.00	108900.00
34	34000	34	kg	3400.00	115600.00
35	35000	35	kg	3500.00	122500.00
36	36000	36	kg	3600.00	129600.00
37	37000	37	kg	3700.00	136900.00
38	38000	38	kg	3800.00	144400.00
39	39000	39	kg	3900.00	152100.00
40	40000	40	kg	4000.00	160000.00
41	41000	41	kg	4100.00	168100.00
42	42000	42	kg	4200.00	176400.00
43	43000	43	kg	4300.00	184900.00
44	44000	44	kg	4400.00	193600.00
45	45000	45	kg	4500.00	202500.00
46	46000	46	kg	4600.00	211600.00
47	47000	47	kg	4700.00	220900.00
48	48000	48	kg	4800.00	230400.00
49	49000	49	kg	4900.00	240100.00
50	50000	50	kg	5000.00	250000.00
51	51000	51	kg	5100.00	260100.00
52	52000	52	kg	5200.00	270400.00
53	53000	53	kg	5300.00	280900.00
54	54000	54	kg	5400.00	291600.00
55	55000	55	kg	5500.00	302500.00
56	56000	56	kg	5600.00	313600.00
57	57000	57	kg	5700.00	324900.00
58	58000	58	kg	5800.00	336400.00
59	59000	59	kg	5900.00	348100.00
60	60000	60	kg		

姓名	性别	年龄	籍贯	职业	住址	备注
王德胜	男	45	山东	工人	济南市	
李秀英	女	38	河北	教师	石家庄市	
张国强	男	52	河南	农民	郑州市	
刘小红	女	28	江苏	医生	南京市	
陈为民	男	60	浙江	商人	杭州市	
赵子龙	男	35	四川	学生	成都市	
周大伟	男	48	湖北	工程师	武汉市	
吴小芳	女	32	广东	护士	广州市	
孙建明	男	55	安徽	教授	合肥市	
郑晓燕	女	25	福建	记者	福州市	
冯志强	男	40	江西	公务员	南昌市	
马丽娟	女	30	山西	会计	太原市	
徐长贵	男	50	陕西	司机	西安市	
郭小华	女	22	湖南	歌手	长沙市	
黄大勇	男	42	广西	农民	南宁市	
宋美玲	女	35	云南	教师	昆明市	
林国强	男	58	贵州	工人	贵阳市	
周小芳	女	28	海南	护士	海口市	
孙建明	男	45	宁夏	商人	银川市	
郑晓燕	女	32	新疆	教师	乌鲁木齐市	
冯志强	男	40	内蒙古	公务员	呼和浩特市	
马丽娟	女	25	吉林	会计	长春市	
徐长贵	男	50	辽宁	司机	沈阳市	
郭小华	女	22	黑龙江	歌手	哈尔滨市	
黄大勇	男	42	河北	农民	石家庄市	
宋美玲	女	35	山东	教师	济南市	
林国强	男	58	河南	工人	郑州市	
周小芳	女	28	江苏	护士	南京市	
孙建明	男	45	浙江	商人	杭州市	
郑晓燕	女	32	四川	学生	成都市	
冯志强	男	40	湖北	工程师	武汉市	
马丽娟	女	25	广东	会计	广州市	
徐长贵	男	50	安徽	教授	合肥市	
郭小华	女	22	福建	记者	福州市	
黄大勇	男	42	江西	公务员	南昌市	
宋美玲	女	35	山西	教师	太原市	
林国强	男	58	陕西	工人	西安市	
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郑晓燕	女	32	云南	教师	昆明市	
冯志强	男	40	贵州	公务员	贵阳市	
马丽娟	女	25	海南	会计	海口市	
徐长贵	男	50	宁夏	教授	银川市	
郭小华	女	22	新疆	记者	乌鲁木齐市	
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林国强	男	58	安徽	工人	合肥市	
周小芳	女	28	福建	护士	福州市	
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郑晓燕	女	32	山西	教师	太原市	
冯志强	男	40	陕西	公务员	西安市	
马丽娟	女	25	湖南	会计	长沙市	
徐长贵	男	50	广西	教授	南宁市	
郭小华	女	22	云南	记者	昆明市	
黄大勇	男	42	贵州	农民	贵阳市	
宋美玲	女	35	海南	教师	海口市	
林国强	男	58	宁夏	工人	银川市	
周小芳	女	28	新疆	护士	乌鲁木齐市	
孙建明	男	45	内蒙古	商人	呼和浩特市	
郑晓燕	女	32	吉林	教师	长春市	
冯志强	男	40	辽宁	公务员	沈阳市	

**Wednesday's 3 P.M.**

(Continued)

[illegible]

12 Months	High	Low	Stock	Div Yld	P/E	500 Ind	S&P	Low	Lowest	Change
100	100	100	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
101	101	101	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
102	102	102	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
103	103	103	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
104	104	104	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
105	105	105	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
106	106	106	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
107	107	107	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
108	108	108	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
109	109	109	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
110	110	110	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
111	111	111	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
112	112	112	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
113	113	113	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
114	114	114	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
115	115	115	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
116	116	116	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
117	117	117	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
118	118	118	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
119	119	119	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
120	120	120	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
121	121	121	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
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141	141	141	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
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147	147	147	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
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155	155	155	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
156	156	156	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
157	157	157	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
158	158	158	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
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166	166	166	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
167	167	167	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
168	168	168	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
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170	170	170	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
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172	172	172	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
173	173	173	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
174	174	174	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
175	175	175	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
176	176	176	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
177	177	177	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
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179	179	179	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
180	180	180	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
181	181	181	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
182	182	182	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
183	183	183	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
184	184	184	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
185	185	185	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
186	186	186	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
187	187	187	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
188	188	188	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
189	189	189	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
190	190	190	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
191	191	191	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
192	192	192	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
193	193	193	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
194	194	194	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
195	195	195	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
196	196	196	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
197	197	197	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
198	198	198	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
199	199	199	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
200	200	200	Amalgamated	1.25	12.5	100	100	100	100	0

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**the Bank Sec**

25% Stake in



SPORTS

# Manchester United to Fight Inter in Champions Cup

GENEVA — Ronaldo goes to Old Trafford and the two German teams, Bayern Munich and Kaiserslautern, meet each other in the quarter-finals of the European Champions Cup.

Manchester United and Inter Milan, both runners-up in their domestic leagues last season, were paired in Wednesday's draw. The

first leg is in Manchester on March 3, and the second in Milan two weeks later. The two clubs — both past European champions — have only ever met in exhibition matches.

The German matchup means Bayern must beat the club that edged it for the Bundesliga title last season. This season, Bayern is top and Kaiserslautern third in the standings.

The other quarterfinal pairings match Real Madrid, the defending champion, against Dynamo Kiev, and Juventus, attempting to make the final for the fourth year in a row, against Olympique, the Greek champion.

Otto Rehhagel, the Kaiserslautern coach whose team has already lost 4-0 to Bayern in the Bundesliga this season, was unhappy to have drawn the Munich powerhouse again.

"Any other club would have been better," he said. "Bayern is the strongest team in this competition."

Ottmar Hitzfeld, the Bayern coach, seemed to share that view.

"It's a team we can beat and we already did it in the Bundesliga," he said. "That's why I think we can hope to reach the semi."

In the weaker Cup Winners Cup, Chelsea, the defending champion, faces Valencia of

Norway, this avoiding Lazio of Italy and Mallorca, the Spanish League leader.

Lazio meets the Greek club Panionios and Mallorca meets Varteks of Croatia.

In the UEFA Cup quarterfinals, which contains three teams each from France and Italy and two from Spain, the draw avoided pairing teams from the same nation. UEFA said it made no effort to keep clubs from the same countries apart.

Olympique Marseille, second in the French League, is host to Celtic Vigo, which is second in the Spanish standings. Bologna welcomes Lyon. Bordeaux receives Parma and Roma goes to Atletico Madrid.

In Johannesburg, Benny McCarthy scored both goals as South Africa beat Egypt, 2-1, Wednesday, in the Nelson Mandela Challenge, avenging an African Cup of Nations loss earlier in the year.

Eric Gerets, trainer of the Belgian champion, Club Brugge, signed a three-year deal Wednesday to coach PSV Eindhoven. Gerets, a former PSV defender, will replace Englishman Bobby Robson at the end of this season.

Sampdoria, of Serie A, said that David Platt, the English international who played for the Genoa club, has been appointed to the coaching staff, but said his full title would be confirmed later.

Under Italian soccer federation rules, Platt, 32, cannot coach a Serie A team because he lacks a coaching permit. Italian media speculated that Sampdoria will get around this problem by appointing Giorgio Veneri, 59, a veteran of the Italian lower divisions as coach and assistant to Platt.

(AP, Reuters)



Nohyr Alshammari, of Kuwait, outleaping Surachai, of Thailand, to score in the first minute of their match.

# Kuwaitis Strike Early Dousing Thais' Dreams

BANGKOK — Kuwait ended Thailand's "miracle" run in Asian Games soccer Wednesday, scoring before the Thais touched the ball in a semifinal some fans in the host nation could not bear to watch to the end.

That left the day's major celebrating to the South Koreans. Park Chan Ho, the Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher, led his team to a 13-1 trouncing of archrival Japan for the baseball

gold medal, and Kim Taek Soo upset China's Liu Guoliang for the men's singles gold in table tennis.

"I am the champion," Kim said, after leaping into the air and then into his coach's arms. He had stopped a Chinese sweep of all seven table tennis golds.

The Korean baseball team tossed Park and several other players in the air, and ran a victory lap with two large Korean flags.

But at the 60,000-seat soccer stadium, which had been filled to overflowing, some fans threw water bottles toward the field and many more left early, unable to bear the final minutes of the Thais' 3-0 loss to Kuwait.

In the first 28 seconds, the Kuwait back Nohyr Alshammari took the ball down the flank and floated it across to the far post, where Hussein Khodhari headed the first goal.

In the other semifinal, Iran beat China, 1-0. Sayed Ali Mosavi-Hasanzadeh scored from the rebound after Jiang Jin, the Chinese goalie blocked his first shot.

In baseball, Park needed to throw only

seven innings under a mercy rule, which shortens games if one team is leading by 10 runs. He struck out four and walked two.

The victory secured a deferment of military call for the professionals, who had struck a deal with the government in exchange for playing in Bangkok.

"We won the gold medal so we don't have to go," said Park, who might have had to leave the Dodgers to serve for three years.

In table tennis, Kim, the world No. 11, won 21-16, 21-14, 22-20 against Liu, the world No. 2 and the Olympic singles and doubles champion.

China won four gold medals Wednesday, boosting its total to 96. It won the women's doubles in table tennis, the women's epee team fencing, in softball — with a 5-0 victory over Japan — and the women's sprint cycling.

The Philippines won its first gold as Gandy Vales and Romeo Villanueva won the final of nine-ball pool doubles.

South Korea became embroiled in a dispute over a bronze medal, which the organizers say should go to Japan. Choi Myung-Jin came in third behind teammates Sun Jung-Kyun and Shing Chang-Moos in the dressage final and was given the bronze medal.

But an appeal committee ruled that it should go to Toshihide Takechi, who came fourth, under a rule stopping one country from winning all the medals in an event.

South Korea had lost three other bronze medals because of the rule. It is refusing to give back Choi's medal because it says the rule does not apply to equestrian events.

(AFP, AP)

## SCOREBOARD

### ASIAN GAMES

WEDNESDAY IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

**BASEBALL**  
Gold — Han Seung-hoon, South Korea, def. Kim Kyeung-ho, South Korea, 11-2.  
Bronze — Oh Kyu-moon, South Korea, def. Wataru Hasegawa, Japan, 11-10.

**BASKETBALL**  
Gold — South Korea 73, Japan 1.  
Bronze — Taiwan 16, China 15.

**SOCCER**  
Gold — South Korea 3, Japan 2.  
Bronze — Taiwan 16, China 15.

**TABLE TENNIS**  
Gold — China (Yang Shuang, Liang Geli, Shen Weidong, Liang Shengzhi) def. South Korea (Oh Jung-soon, Lee Myung-ho, Lee Kyeung-soon, Kim Kyeung-soon), 4-2.  
Bronze — Japan (Yuka Araki, Chieko Onoda).

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WESTERN CONFERENCE						S. LEADS					
W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	W	L	T	Pts		
Edmonton	16	12	1	33	87	44	Calgary	11	16	2	28
St. Louis	9	10	7	25	44	46	Norfolk	10	14	3	22
St. Louis	9	10	7	25	44	46	Norfolk	10	14	3	22
Chicago	9	16	4	22	68	97					
NORTHERN CONFERENCE						S. LEADS					
W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	W	L	T	Pts		
Colorado	13	12	3	29	69	72	Calgary	11	16	2	28
Edmonton	10	13	5	25	65	72	Norfolk	10	14	3	22
Vancouver	11	16	2	24	69	81					
Vancouver	10	14	4	24	76	81					
PACIFIC CONFERENCE						S. LEADS					
W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	W	L	T	Pts		
Dallas	17	5	3	39	81	57	Calgary	11	16	2	28
Phoenix	17	5	3	39	81	57	Norfolk	10	14	3	22
Anchorage	11	11	4	26	79	69					
Los Angeles	9	18	3	19	69	80					
San Jose	4	15	7	17	60	80					
TENNIS OF THE WEEK						S. LEADS					
Carrollton	8	8	6	24	64	73	Calgary	11	16	2	28
Carrollton	8	8	6	24	64	73	Norfolk	10	14	3	22
First Period: Carrollton, Walsley 7-1, 3-0											
Second Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Third Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Fourth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Fifth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Sixth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Seventh Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Eighth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Ninth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Tenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Eleventh Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Twelfth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Thirteenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Fourteenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Fifteenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Sixteenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Seventeenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Eighteenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Nineteenth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Twentieth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Twenty-first Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
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Twenty-sixth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Twenty-seventh Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Twenty-eighth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Twenty-ninth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
Thirtieth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
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Ninety-ninth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											
One hundredth Period: Carrollton, Roberts 5-0											

### CRICKET

WEDNESDAY IN DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

West Indies def. Nepal XI by eight wickets

### EUROPEAN CUP DRAWS

WEDNESDAY IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

Gold — Han Seung-hoon, South Korea, def. Kim Kyeung-ho, South Korea, 11-2.  
Bronze — Oh Kyu-moon, South Korea, def. Wataru Hasegawa, Japan, 11-10.

WEDNESDAY IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

Gold — Han Seung-hoon, South Korea, def. Kim Kyeung-ho, South Korea, 11-2.  
Bronze — Oh Kyu-moon, South Korea, def. Wataru Hasegawa, Japan, 11-10.

### DENNIS THE MENACE



### PEANUTS



### CALVIN AND HOBBES



### WIZARD OF ID



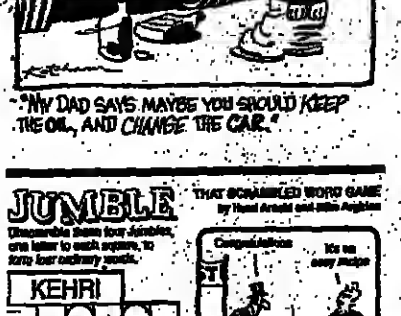
### NON SEQUITUR



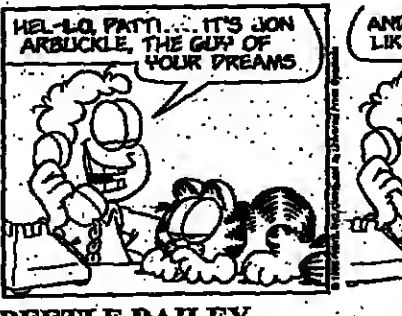
### DOONESBURY



### GARFIELD



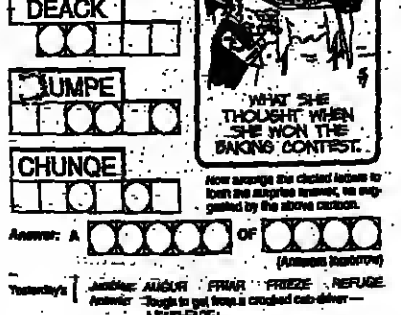
### BEETLE BAILEY



### BLONDIE



### JUNIEB



### RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE





# THANKS TO YOU, WE ARE ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST RESPECTED COMPANIES.

THANKS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES FROM

53 COUNTRIES WHO VOTED FOR ALSTOM.

AND TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS, EMPLOYEES

AND SHAREHOLDERS FOR THE

CONFIDENCE THEY PLACE IN US. OUR

AIM IS TO CONTINUE DELIVERING

PROFITABLE GROWTH AND

MEETING OUR CUSTOMERS'

NEEDS. THAT'S WHY WE OFFER

EVER MORE INNOVATIVE

SOLUTIONS AND SERVICES FOR

THE WORLDWIDE INFRASTRUCTURE

AND INDUSTRIAL MARKETS.

EVERY DAY, THE HEART OF ALSTOM

BEATS FOR ALL ITS CUSTOMERS.

## WORLD'S MOST RESPECTED COMPANIES

(base: all respondents; top 40 nominations)

Rank	Company	Country
1	General Electric	US
2	Microsoft	US
3	Coca-Cola	US
4	IBM	US
5	Toyota	Japan
6	Daimler-Benz	Germany
7=	ABB	Switzerland/Sweden
7=	Nestlé	Switzerland
9=	Ford	US
9=	Intel	US
11	General Motors	Netherlands/UK
12	Royal Dutch/Shell	Germany
13	BMW	US
14=	Hewlett-Packard	US
14=	Procter & Gamble	US
16	Philip Morris	France/UK
17=	Alstom	US
17=	Colgate-Palmolive	US
17=	Johnson & Johnson	US
17=	McDonald's	US
17=	Servicemaster	US
17=	Wal-Mart	US
24=	3m	US
24=	Mobil	Japan
24=	Sony	UK
27=	Body Shop International	US
27=	Dell	Japan
27=	Honda	Japan
27=	Japan Railway East	Japan

Extract from Financial Times Survey  
conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers  
30/11/98

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